



CHARLES I.

MACMILLAN'S
HISTORY READERS

THE STUART PERIOD

(1603-1714)

WITH

BIOGRAPHIES OF LEADING PERSONS

AND WITH

ADDITIONAL CHAPTERS ON THE CONSTITUTION

AND FUNCTIONS OF PARLIAMENT

A READING BOOK FOR STANDARD VI

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THE STUART PERIOD

1603-1714

JAMES THE FIRST

1603-1625

1.—England at the beginning of the Seventeenth Century

1. ENGLAND as we know it to-day is very different from what it was at the death of Queen Elizabeth. In order to understand fully the events of the hundred years succeeding her reign, we must keep this fact constantly in mind.

2. The population of the country is now nearly thirty millions: *then* it was not more than seven millions. The only large town was London, and even that was about one-tenth of its present size. Then, England had but few manufactures; the people, except in London, lived almost entirely on the produce of the soil. Trade and commerce with other countries were only just making a beginning. Colonies were unknown; and the few attempts made in Elizabeth's reign to enlarge the empire had been unsuccessful.



JAMES I.

3. England is now the first manufacturing country in the world. Its trade and commerce are greater than those of any other. Our foreign possessions are so vast in extent that, with the exception of Russia, no empire, ancient or modern, has ever covered such an area. England itself possesses a network of means of communication in the shape of roads, railways, and canals, which permit of travelling at a speed immensely greater than any that could have been conceived 300 years ago.

4. While the population has increased fourfold, the condition of the people generally has changed greatly for the better. The luxuries of the wealthy of that time have become the common necessities of the present majority. In the comforts of their homes, in the kind of food, the means of transit, and the spread of knowledge, the people of England to-day are far in advance of those who lived during the reign of Elizabeth.

5. The Tudor sovereigns, of whom Elizabeth was the last, were virtually despots. They ruled almost as they pleased, although they always kept up the forms of constitutional government. The Wars of the Roses and Henry VII.'s fines had ruined the old nobility, and the peers were few in number and of recent creation. The Commons had little power; and the people as a whole held but a small share in the government of the country.

6. To-day the sovereign rules, not in appearance only, but *actually* in a constitutional manner; for, though the personal power of the sovereign is limited, the real power is in the hands of Parliament, which consists of Crown, Lords, and Commons acting together;

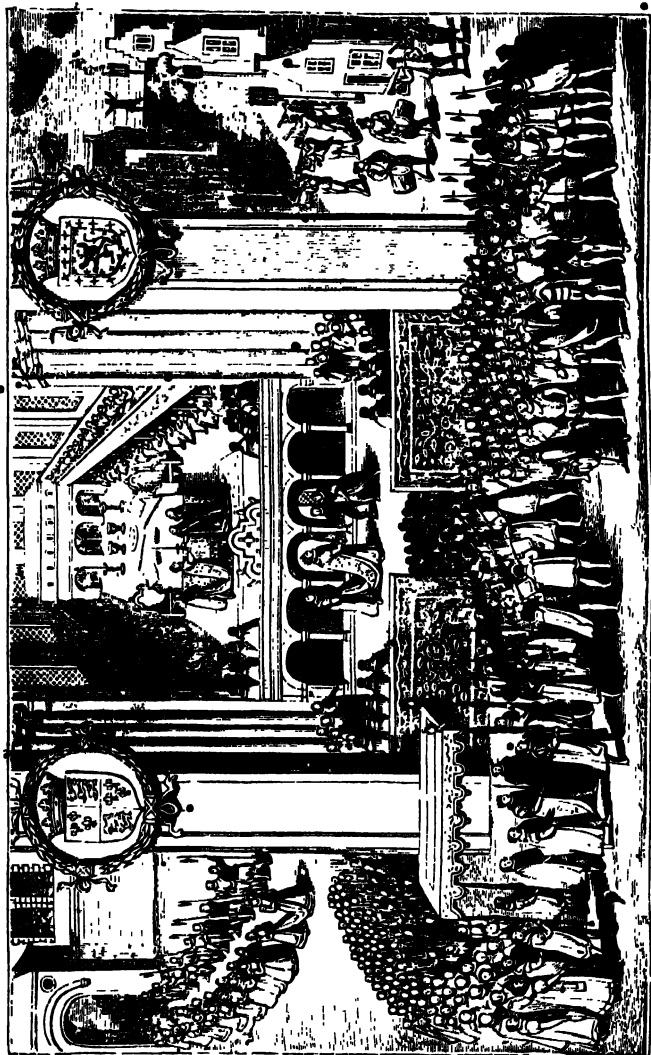
while of this assembly, the Commons House is elected substantially by the whole of the people.

7. But the character of the English nation has undergone hardly any change. The people of Elizabeth's time had shown themselves brave, courageous, liberty-loving, and patriotic. In seasons of danger they had proved themselves worthy of their country. They were tenacious of their opinions, and willing to suffer to the extent of martyrdom before they would belie their consciences. They were, moreover, industrious, loyal, and religious; and it was by the help of these qualities that they were enabled to go through the troubles and tumults of the Stuart period.

3. *Area*. An amount of space, or extent of ground.
- Conceiv'd*. Thought of; imagined.
4. *Luxuries*. Pleasant things not absolutely necessary for life.
- Majority*. The greater number.
- Transit*. Getting about from place to place.
5. *Virtually*. In point of fact.
6. *Substantially*. Almost entirely.
7. *Belie*. To give the lie to.

2.—The Hampton Court Conference and the Gunpowder Plot

1. Elizabeth before her death had named James VI., King of Scotland, as her successor. He was not the individual whom Henry VIII. had intended to succeed her; but his hereditary title was stronger than that of the only other person who had any claim. Within a fortnight of the demise of Elizabeth, he was on his way to England; and in the course of a month he reached London, having called at various towns and castles on the way.



2. James was the great-grandson of Margaret, the sister of Henry VIII., and the son of Mary, Queen of Scots, who was put to death by Elizabeth. He had been made King of Scotland when only a child, and was brought up as a Presbyterian. Before coming to the English throne, James had proved himself a mean-spirited son; for although his mother was executed by Elizabeth's orders he did not outwardly resent her death, but continued to receive a pension from England.

3. He no sooner arrived in this country than disaffected people conspired against him. Their first plot, called the *Main Plot*, was for the purpose of placing his cousin Arabella Stuart on the throne in his stead. The second, called the *Bjæ Plot*, aimed at seizing the King's person, and forcing from him a great measure of religious freedom for the Puritans and the Roman Catholics. All the plotters were taken, tried, and condemned, but only some of the minor ones were executed.

4. During Elizabeth's reign the Puritans—so called from their desire for purity of worship—had suffered heavy penalties, imprisonment, banishment, and even death on account of their opinions. They had looked forward with delight to the coming of James, for his training had been similar to their own, and he had made many promises to their party. A thousand of them signed a petition called, on that account, the *Milenary Petition*, which set out in full the reforms that they needed. But although the King had been trained in Presbyterianism, he had come to dislike it; and now favoured Episcopacy, or government by bishops.

5. For several years before coming to the English

throne James had been quarrelling with the people of Scotland as to the extent of his power; but in this contest he had been defeated. The office of bishop had been abolished in Scotland, and a Book of Discipline had been adopted which organised the Church on a Presbyterian model.

6. When, therefore, the Millenary Petition was presented to him, James saw in it only an attempt on the part of the English to exercise power over him in the same manner as had been tried by the leaders of the Church in Scotland. James looked upon the petitioners as enemies of the crown.

7. A short time before, he had published a book asserting the divine right and absolute authority of the King over all orders of men within the realm, and yet the petitioners claimed the right to ask for reforms in a mode of worship which had been established by kingly authority.

8. Had James been as wise as his predecessors, he would have yielded more readily to the petitioners, and so would have checked the growth of dissent. But all he did was to call a Conference at Hampton Court between representatives of the Established Church and the Puritans. The Conference, however, was badly managed; and, after lasting three days, came to an end without any reasonable concessions having been made to the Puritans, who thereupon threw in their lot with the political party which was forming against the King. The best result of the Conference was, that to it was due the Authorised Version of the Bible.

9. The Roman Catholics were also disappointed with the action of James. For the sake of his

mother, who had belonged to their faith, they had expected he would show them kindness; but to clear himself of the charge of favouring them, he put the penal laws into execution with greater severity than before. Thousands were convicted; and several of the most desperate entered into the conspiracy called the *Gunpowder Plot*.

10. A Roman Catholic named Catesby, who had joined in the rebellion raised by the Earl of Essex a short time before the death of Elizabeth, was the chief instigator of the *Gunpowder Plot*. He had determined that James should not succeed to the throne, but when Elizabeth died his plan was not ready to be carried out, and for a time was abandoned. The banishment of the priests, and the exaction of the fines levied on Catholics, gave, however, an impetus to the designs of the plotters; and when James was quietly seated on the throne they determined, by one bold stroke, to free themselves from him for ever.

11. Catesby was joined by Guido Fawkes, an Englishman who had served in the wars in Flanders, and by Thomas Percy, a cousin of the Earl of Northumberland. They hired a small house near the Houses of Parliament, with the intention of digging a mine underneath its walls. They made but slow progress, for they were unaccustomed to such hard work, and they were almost ready to give up in despair. A noise in the Parliament building dismayed them, for they thought their plot was discovered; but they found that it was only a tenant of a cellar removing coals preparatory to giving up the tenancy of the place. An arrangement was made so that they should hire the cellar, and into it thirty-six barrels

of gunpowder were carried and stored under the coals.



GUY FAWKES AND HIS FELLOW-CONSPIRATORS.

12. By this time several Catholics of eminence had joined the conspirators, and supplied Catesby with

money to carry out the plot. Their designs had widened; after destroying the King and Parliament, the young princes, if not killed with their father, were to be seized and trained as Catholics to carry out the wishes of the plotters, while the young princess was, if left the only survivor of the royal family, to become a Catholic Queen.

13. The plot was cleverly concealed, and would probably have been successful but for the cowardice or the soft-heartedness of a man named Tresham. He wrote a letter to his kinsman, Lord Monteagle, warning him not to attend Parliament on the opening day, on account of a mysterious "blow" which was then to be dealt. The letter was shown to the King, who immediately suspected by what means "the blow" would be given.

14. A search was therefore made, and Guido Fawkes was discovered only waiting for the signal to set fire to the train of gunpowder which would have produced such a horrible result. The plotters, who had met together in Warwickshire under pretence of having a hunting-party, were dispersed; and, being chased from county to county, were either killed in pursuit, or, on being taken prisoners, were executed. The failure of the plot strengthened the hands of the King for a time, and Parliament became more ready to assist him in his designs.

1. *Demise.* Death.

3. *Disaffected.* Unfriendly.

4. *Purity of worship.* Church services free from the ritual which was adopted by Roman Catholics.

Millenary. From the Latin *mille*, a thousand.

8. *The Authorised Version.* The Bible had been translated already by several different people; but this version was done by learned men at the request of the King, and so was *authorised* by him. It remains the standard translation in the country. Some errors here and there were corrected in the *Revised Version* of 1885.

3.—Quarrels with Parliament

1. From the very beginning of the reign a strife existed between James and his Parliament. Scotland was a poor country, and James had had little money while there. Coming to the English throne, he expected to be rich, but soon found that his expenses were even greater than his income; and when he applied for money to Parliament, they were only willing to grant it if he yielded to their desires.

2. One of the reasons why James spent so much money was because of the troubles in Ireland. That country had been conquered by England in 1172, but it had never been brought properly under the power of the English Government till the reign of Elizabeth. In her reign it seemed as if the Irish were to be treated justly. Lands were given to them, and occupation found for those who did not wish to live on the land. But jealousy of the power of the English stirred up some of the native princes, among whom was the Earl of Tyrone. He was ordered by the Lord-Deputy, who ruled in the name of James, to proceed to England to answer for his conduct; upon which, he and another native prince fled to Spain.

3. These two noblemen had ruled over six counties in Ulster. The Deputy asked the King to give their lands to the Irish; but he would not agree; and the best land was given to Englishmen and Scotchmen,

on condition that they preserved order. This was known as the "plantation" of Ulster; and was greatly resented by the Irish, so that James was compelled to keep a large army among them; and great trouble was caused some years after. The descendants of these settlers still live in the north of Ireland; and have made it one of the busiest and most prosperous commercial districts in the kingdom.

4. To pay the debts thus incurred, James tried to bargain with the Parliament for a larger income. He offered, if the people would grant him more money, to give up a number of rights which he said belonged to him, but which were thought burdensome. He had been in the habit of taxing goods imported into or exported from the country. The Parliament did not think he had a right to do this, and called these taxes Impositions. Before they granted him an enlarged income, they desired the abolition of all impositions. But the King wanted more money than they would give him, and the negotiations came to an end by the dissolution of Parliament.

5. This dissolution marks an important period in the history of England. It may, in fact, be said to indicate the beginning of the struggle for personal supremacy by the Stuart sovereigns, a struggle which lasted till 1688; and in the course of which the blood and treasure of the country were expended, one king was beheaded, his family disinherited, and a second king driven from his throne.

6. So far James had been in some measure kept in check by his minister Cecil, who had had great power in the time of Elizabeth. But soon after the dissolution of the first Parliament Cecil died, and James deter-

mined to do the work himself. By and by the King found that this was too great a trouble and so appointed others to the post; but made sure that they were men who could be relied upon to carry out his wishes.

4.—The Struggle for Power

1. In his choice of persons to fill the offices of State, and to be his favourites, the weakness of James's character is very apparent. The Tudor sovereigns had surrounded themselves with men of strong will, great ability, and high principles, or with persons of such power that they were feared, if not respected. Among these Wolsey, Thomas Cromwell, Raleigh, and Cecil were prominent. But James gathered round him some of the vainest and most useless persons who ever advised a monarch.

2. The first upon whom James bestowed his gifts and favours was a Scotch page named Robert Carr. Although his character was utterly devoid of merit, his appearance pleased James, and he was raised to the peerage as Viscount Rochester. He soon became a minister, and was advanced to the dignity of Earl of Somerset. He was exceedingly profligate; and with the aid of his wife, who had previously been divorced by Lord Essex, he committed a great crime. They plotted the death of a distinguished man named Sir Thomas Overbury, of whom they were very jealous; and on being tried, they were found guilty. James, however, screened them, and their only punishment was imprisonment in the Tower, while their agents in the matter were ruthlessly put to death. Somerset, however, lost all his power.

3. The profligacy of the Court soon landed the ministry of James in further debt, and it was necessary to urge the King to call another Parliament. On condition that a majority of members favourable to the King should be returned, James consented. But the anger of the country was roused, and in almost every case the candidates of the Court were rejected. When the Parliament met, they refused to grant supplies till they had a redress of grievances, and James dismissed them before they had passed a single law. The nickname of the Addled Parliament was consequently given to them.

4. For seven years James reigned without a Parliament at all. The old grievances were continued, and the impositions were regularly and strictly levied, but still they did not fill the Treasury. Forcing loans from the people was illegal, but the judges told James he might *ask* for them. Letters were sent to rich people demanding money, but most of them remained ~~un~~answered, so that other plans had to be adopted to induce the nation to send money to the King.

5. James also angered the people of London by the fines he imposed upon them for building houses without his consent. These fines brought him in some money, but not nearly as much as he wanted; so he now began to sell titles and honours, forcing men to take them in order that he might get the fees which were paid on attaining to such dignities. He invented a new order of hereditary title, that of a Baronet. Those who receive it are not peers; but are addressed as "Sir," like a knight; while the title descends to their sons or heirs, which a knight's does not. At the same time James hoped to form a subservient House

of Lords, which should assist him in his struggle with the Commons. At the beginning of his reign there were only about sixty peers. At its close the number had been nearly doubled.

6. James next claimed the right to revise the decisions of the judges in any matter respecting the King's prerogatives; that is, he wished to make the decisions of the judges dependent on his will. He attempted to place himself above the law. When the judges remonstrated, and denied the right of the King to overrule their judgments and decisions, he called them to his private chamber, and scolded them severely, exacting a promise of obedience in the future. Sir Edward Coke, however, the Lord Chief Justice, refused to give the promise. He said he would act in any case which came before him as a judge ought to act. For his continued resistance he was deprived of his office.

2. *Profligate.* Shameless in wickedness.

5. *Subservient.* Entirely under control.

5.—The Old and Young Courtier

1. The King's weakness for favourites was very much disliked by the nation; and the change which came over the manners of many of the younger nobles, in consequence of the royal patronage, seemed more objectionable still. The following verses were intended to describe the difference between the behaviour of the older noblemen of Elizabeth's time and that of the new men whom James was putting forward. They were written about the year 1615.

2. An old song, made by an aged old pate,
Of an old worshipful gentleman, who had a great
estate,
That kept a brave old house at a bountiful rate,
And an old porter, to relieve the poor at his gate,
Like an old courtier of the Queen's,
And the Queen's old courtier.
3. With an old lady, whose anger one word assuages ;
They every quarter paid their old servants their
wages,
And never knew what belong'd to coachmen, foot-
men, or pages,
But kept twenty old fellows with blue coats and
badges ;
4. With an old study fill'd full of learned old books,
With an old reverend chaplain, you might know
him by his looks ;
With an old buttery hatch worn quite off the hooks,
And an old kitchen, that maintain'd half-a-dozen
old cooks ;
5. With a good old fashion, when Christmas was come,
To call in all his old neighbours with bagpipe and
drum,
With good cheer enough to furnish every old room,
And old liquor able to make a cat speak, and a
man dumb.
6. With an old falconer, huntsman, and kennel of
hounds,
That never hawked, nor hunted, but in his own
grounds,

Who, like a wise man, kept himself within his own
bounds,
And when he died, gave every child a thousand
good pounds ;

7. But to his eldest son his house and land he
assign'd,
Charging him in his will to keep the old bounti-
ful mind,
To be good to his old tenants, and to his neigh-
bours be kind ;
But in the ensuing ditty you shall hear how he
was inclin'd,
Like a young courtier of the King's,
And the King's young courtier.

8. With a new-fashion'd hall, built where the old
one stood,
Hung round with new pictures, that do the poor
no good,
With a fine marble chimney-piece, wherein burns
neither coal nor wood,
And a new smooth shovel-board, whereon no
victuals ne'er stood.

9. With a new study, stuff'd full of pamphlets and
new plays,
And a new chaplain, that swears faster than he
prays,
With a new buttery hatch, that opens once in
four or five days,
And a new French cook, to devise fine kickshaws
and toys ;

10. With a new fashion, when Christmas is drawing
on

On a new journey to London straight we must
all begone,

And leave none to keep house, but our new porter
John,

Who relieves the poor with a thump on the back
with a stone ;

11. With new titles of honour bought with his father's
old gold,

For which sundry of his ancestor's old manors
are sold ;

And this is the course most of our new gallants
hold,

Which makes that good housekeeping is now
grown so cold

Among the young courtiers of the King's,
Or the King's young courtiers.

2. *Pate.* A head.

Brave. Noble in appearance.

3. *Assuages.* Softens.

4. *Buttery hatch.* A buttery is an apartment where
are kept. The hatch is the half door at which they
are given out as required.

5. *Cheer.* Here means good food.

6. *Falconer.* The man whose duty it was to keep the falcons
or hawks used for the sport of hawking.

8. *Shovel-board.* A sideboard or cupboard.

9. *Kickshaw.* A dainty dish. Corrupted from the French,
quelque chose, something.

11. *Manors.* Estates.

6.—Buckingham and the Spanish Marriage

1. After the disgrace and imprisonment of Somerset, only a short time elapsed before his place as king's favourite was filled. The choice of the King now fell upon a young man named George Villiers. Like Somerset, he pushed his way into favour by means of his pretty face. In the space of less than two years he was raised to the peerage as Viscount Villiers. The titles of earl, marquis, and duke quickly followed, and while yet a young man he was at the head of the English nobility. He was then known as the Duke of Buckingham.

2. Although ignorant, greedy, and proud, he had a strong will and great determination. He aided and abetted the King in all his attempts to secure absolute power, and by his boldness and self-confidence gained great influence over James. Now that the power of Somerset was destroyed, James might have been led by wise counsel to retrace his steps and make peace with the people. But the character of Villiers was such that any attempt at conciliation was out of the question. James seemed to think that in Villiers he had obtained just the person to overcome the opposition of the people.

3. England at this time was looked upon as one of the foremost Protestant countries in Europe; and if there was one country against which the English felt resentment, it was Roman Catholic Spain.

4. Through the influence of Cecil, James had married his eldest daughter to the Elector Palatine, who was the head of the Protestant Union on the



GEORGE VILLIERS, DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM

continent. It was fully expected, therefore, that if any danger to the Union arose, help would be obtained from England. Great was the dismay of the people when it was found that James contemplated a marriage between his eldest son, Prince Charles, and the Infanta of Spain.

5. To prevent this, a project was set on foot which might lead to a rupture between the two countries. Sir Walter Raleigh, who had for a long time been imprisoned in the Tower under a sentence of death for treason, suggested to the King the possibility of increasing his revenue by the profits of a gold mine which he said existed on the Orinoco.

6. Spain claimed the whole of the continent of America; and James, while willing, and even anxious to get possession of the gold, was afraid that the English and Spaniards might come into collision. He therefore exacted a promise that no attack should be made upon them. Raleigh, desirous of release, and careless whether war broke out between the two countries or not, readily acceded to James's wishes.

7. The expedition was a failure. Raleigh's son was killed in an attempt upon a Spanish town, no gold was found, and Raleigh, unable to induce his men to attack the treasure-ships on their way back to Spain, was compelled to return to England. Here he had to answer the complaints of Spain, and, failing to satisfy James, he was beheaded under the sentence previously passed upon him.

8. In the meantime the existence of Protestantism on the continent of Europe was in great jeopardy. James's son-in-law, Frederick the Elector Palatine, had accepted the throne of Bohemia, the people of which

country had revolted against their ruler, the Emperor of Germany. Then the various Roman Catholic countries, headed by Spain, joined together against the Protestants, and Frederick was without assistance, except such as he could get from Holland.

9. The danger roused the spirit of England, and both Court and people demanded the calling of another Parliament. James could not resist the demand. The Houses assembled, and were told that the cause of Protestantism seemed lost. Frederick was driven from Bohemia, but James only attempted to patch up a peace. Envoys were sent to ask forgiveness for Frederick, and to urge the Spaniards to leave the Palatinate.

10. Meanwhile, the negotiations for marriage continued. The Commons remonstrated with the King, telling him that he ought to break with Spain, and marry his son to a Protestant princess. James was offended; and treated their advice as an impertinence; upon which the Commons claimed the right to discuss the whole of the concerns of the realm, and entered a resolution to that effect on the journals of their House. James was bitterly angry. He tore out with his own hands the record of this resolution, and dismissed the Parliament.

11. Spain, however, still refused consent to the marriage, and Prince Charles became impatient. Incited to the act by Buckingham, and accompanied by him, Charles went to Spain under an assumed name. Here he promised everything the Spaniards asked for - the repeal of the penal laws against Catholics, a Catholic education for his children, and a free open Catholic Church for his Queen. The Spanish Court,

however, wished to break off the negotiations, and pleaded for delay. Charles then left Spain in disgust, but renewed his promises on the eve of his departure.

12. Great was the rejoicing in England on account of the rupture. It seemed possible now for James to be brought to help in the struggle for the recovery of Frederick's kingdom. Prince Charles and Buckingham were ready to join in the demand for active measures. But while Parliament wished to cripple the force of Spain on the sea, the pride of Buckingham led him to determine to send troops to the Rhine. An army of 12,000 was despatched thither, only to find themselves without supplies and to die of famine and disease. The disaster preyed heavily upon the mind of James, and he died in March 1625, after a reign of twenty-two years.

4. *Elector Palatine.* The prince who ruled over the Palatinate, or Rhine country, near Heidelberg.

Infanta. A royal princess of Spain.

5. *Orinoco.* A great river of South America, flowing through what is now the Republic of Venezuela.

8. *Jeopardy.* Danger.

8. *Envoys.* Messengers from a king.

7.—The Death of Raleigh

1. As the hour for his execution approached, Raleigh took his breakfast, and smoked his tobacco as usual. His spirits were excited by the prospect of the scene which was before him. Being asked how he liked the wine which was brought to him, he said that "it was good drink, if a man might tarry by it." At eight the officers came to fetch him away. As he passed out to

the scaffold he noticed that one of his friends, who had come to be near him at the last, was unable to push through the throng. "I know not," he said, "what shift you will make, but I am sure to have a place."

2. A minute after, catching sight of an old man with a bald head, he asked him whether he wanted anything. "Nothing," he replied, "but to see you, and to pray God to have mercy on your soul." "I thank thee, good friend," answered Raleigh, "I am sorry I have no better thing to return thee for thy good will; but take this nightcap, for thou hast more need of it now than I."

3. As soon as he had mounted the scaffold, he asked leave to address the people. His speech had been carefully prepared. Every word he spoke was, as far as we can judge, literally true; but it was not the whole truth, and it was calculated in many points to produce a false impression on his hearers. He spoke of the efforts which it had cost him to induce his men to return to England, and denied having wished to desert his comrades whilst he was lying at the mouth of the Orinoco. He then adverted to a foolish tale which had long been current against him, to the effect that at the execution of the Earl of Essex he had taken his place at a window in order to see him die, and had puffed tobacco at him in derision. The story, he said, was a pure fiction.

4. "And now," he concluded by saying, "I entreat that you all will join with me in prayer to that Great God of Heaven whom I have so grievously offended, —being a man full of all vanity, who has lived a sinful life in such callings as have been most inducing to it; for I have been a soldier, a sailor, and a courtier, which

are courses of wickedness and vice,—that His Almighty goodness will forgive me; that He will cast away my sins from me, and that He will receive me into everlasting life; so I take my leave of you all, making my peace with God.”

5. As soon as the preparations were completed, Raleigh turned to the executioner, and asked to see the axe. “I prithee,” said he as the man held back, “let me see it; dost thou think that I am afraid of it?” He ran his finger down the edge, saying to himself, “This is sharp medicine, but it is a sound cure for all diseases.” He then knelt down and laid his head upon the block. Some one objected that he ought to lay his face towards the east: “What matter,” he said, “how the head lie, so the heart be right?” After he had prayed for a little while, he gave the appointed signal; seeing that the headsman was reluctant to do his duty, he called upon him to strike. In two blows the head was severed from the body. His remains were delivered to his wife, and were by her buried in St. Margaret’s at Westminster.

6. A copy of verses written by Raleigh the night before his execution was discovered, and was soon passed from hand to hand. It was a strange medley, in which faith and confidence in God appear side by side with sarcasms upon the lawyers and the courtiers. It was perhaps at a later hour that he wrote on the fly leaf of his Bible those touching lines in which the higher part of his nature alone is visible—

Even such is time that takes on trust
 Our youth, our joys, and all we have,
 And pays us but with age and dust;
 Who in the dark and silent grave,

When we have wandered all our ways,
Shuts up the story of our days !
But from this earth, this grave, this dust,
The Lord shall raise me up, I trust.

7. "No matter how the head lie, so the heart be right." Perhaps, after all, no better epitaph could be found to inscribe upon Raleigh's tomb. For him, the child of the sixteenth century, it was still possible to hold truth and falsehood lightly, without sinking into meanness. In his chase after wealth he was never sordid or covetous. His sins had brought with them their own punishment, a punishment which did not tarry, because he was so utterly unconscious of them. Yet it was no mere blindness to his errors which made all England feel that Raleigh's death was a national dishonour. His countrymen knew that in his wildest enterprises he had always before him the thought of England's greatness, and that, in his eyes, England's greatness was indissolubly connected with the truest welfare of all other nations. They knew that his heart was right.

S. R. GARDINER.

1. *Tarry.* Linger, or stay.
What shift you will make. How you will succeed.
3. *The Earl of Essex.* The great favourite of Elizabeth.
6. *Medley.* A mixture of things unlike each other.
Sarcasms. Sharp or bitter sayings.

8.—The Men of the "Mayflower"

1. It has already been stated that the Hampton Court Conference broke up without any practical result. At its close James dismissed the members with these ominous parting words: "If this be all that they have to say" (speaking of the speeches of the

Puritans), "I shall make them conform, or I will harry them out of the land, or worse."

2. This led the Puritans to reconsider their position. Two courses seemed open to them—first, to stay at home and conform to the practice of the established religion, or continue in the course they were then pursuing, and suffer loss of goods, imprisonment, contumely, and probably death.

3. There was no holding back among them; for every one preferred death to dishonour. All that was possible was exile from their country. But their love of England was a passion; and it was only after severe struggles that they came to the conclusion to leave for Holland, where religious freedom could be secured.

4. So it came to pass that, in 1609, a number of them moved with their families to Leyden, where they stayed nine years. Here they found quiet and a measure of prosperity. But their loyalty to England was unabated; and they soon realised that their children would grow up aliens, and would become Dutch instead of English.

5. So they contemplated a further removal. Stories of the land across the seas, with its promise of future greatness, were known amongst them; and notwithstanding the perils of the voyage, and the dangers from hostile Indians which they would have to encounter, they at last determined to depart.

6. They were strengthened for their journey by their dependence on the protection and love of God, for said they: "All great and honourable actions are accompanied with great difficulties, and must be undertaken and overcome with answerable courage. True it is that such attempts are not to be undertaken

without good reason, and never rashly or lightly; as many have done for curiosity, and gain. But our condition is not ordinary, our ends are good and honourable, our calling is lawful and urgent; therefore we may invoke and expect God's blessing on our proceeding. *God* will protect us and He points us on."

7. So the *Speedwell* left Delft Haven and joined the *Mayflower* at Plymouth, whence the two ships set sail; but after a series of mishaps, the *Speedwell* was pronounced unseaworthy, and the *Mayflower*, with one hundred souls on board, went on alone across the Atlantic. For sixty-three days the ship sailed westwards, and in September, 1620, anchored in Cape Cod harbour. Then weeks of toil and danger and weary waiting elapsed before they could effect a landing. This, however, was at last safely accomplished in the month of December.

8. "The spot to which Providence had directed the planters had, a few years before, been rendered entirely a desert by a pestilence which had also swept over the neighbouring tribes, and desolated almost the whole seaboard of New England." To this place the "Pilgrim Fathers" gave the name of New Plymouth in remembrance of the kindness they had received from the people of Plymouth ere they left England.

9. The colonists during their first winter suffered extraordinary privations, and it was not till many years had elapsed that this first Puritan settlement grew to any magnitude. But in spite of all their trials and sufferings, it is probable that, for the future welfare of the settlers, their expedition took place at the best time possible. "Had New England been colonised

immediately on the discovery of the American continent, the old English institutions would have been planted with the Roman Catholic hierarchy; had the settlement been made under Elizabeth, it would have been before activity of the popular mind in religion had conducted to a corresponding activity of mind in politics. The Pilgrims were Englishmen, Protestants, exiles from conscience, men disciplined by misfortune, cultivated by opportunities of extensive observation, equal in rank as in rights, and bound by no code but that of religion or the public will."

1. *Ominous.* Threatening.
9. *Hierarchy.* Priesthood.
- Code.* System of laws.

9.—Francis Bacon, 1561-1626

1. The life of Francis Bacon, Lord St. Albans, belongs partly to the Elizabethan and partly to the Stuart period. He was the son of Sir Nicholas Bacon, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal, and was born in London in 1561. Very early in life he showed great intellectual capacity, and was sent to Cambridge when he was but thirteen years of age. Here he stayed three years, and then proceeded to France, where he pursued his studies for three years longer.

2. On the death of his father, he was compelled to return to England to engage in some profession for a livelihood; and spent several years in the study of the law. When thirty-two years of age he sat in Parliament as the member for Middlesex. On one occasion he took the popular side in opposing the grant of

large subsidies to the Crown ; but finding that his conduct had given great offence to the Queen, he made abject apologies in order to secure the favour necessary to his advancement.

3. Lord Burleigh was a relative of Bacon ; but, although often applied to, would do nothing to further his interests ; and at last Bacon attached himself to Lord Essex, the chief of the Queen's favourites. Essex attempted to gain the Attorney-Generalship for him. He was, however, unsuccessful ; but as some consolation, gave him an estate, which Bacon shortly afterwards sold for a considerable sum. The return Essex received was a most base one ; for when he was tried for conspiring against the life of Elizabeth, Bacon not only deserted him, but actually pleaded against him and endeavoured to magnify his crimes.

4. On the accession of James I. Bacon's prospects improved. He obtained several offices of profit under the Crown, and in all of them he did not scruple to assist the King in the arbitrary measures for which he strove. In 1619, Bacon gained his great wish, being created Lord High Chancellor of England and Baron Verulam. In 1620, he was made Viscount St. Albans. While occupying this high position, his conduct was of the basest kind. His judgments were altered to please the King's favourites, and although his income was large, his extravagance was such that he accepted bribes from suitors, and so perverted justice. In two years from his accession to the Chancellorship, a Parliamentary inquiry into his conduct led to his condemnation and disgrace.

5. Being banished from public life he now had

leisure to devote himself to those philosophical and literary pursuits of which as a youth he had been so fond. Even while he had been engrossed in public affairs, he published a number of Essays on various subjects, of such interest that they at once became popular, and up to the present time are the most generally read of all his productions.

6. His great work was intended to be a complete treatise on the Sciences, which was to be divided into three parts, and to deal with the Advancement of Learning, and the method of employing the understanding in adding to the sum of human knowledge. The third part was devoted to the History of Nature, and contained an account of many original observations made by Bacon himself.

7. After retiring from public life Bacon continued to live in a very ostentatious style, and when he died in 1626 he was deeply in debt. He was a man so richly endowed with intellectual gifts as to be able to produce works which have been the delight and admiration of thoughtful men of all succeeding ages; therefore it is terrible that he should so merit the disgrace and contumely which were heaped upon him. His character has been well summed up by the poet Pope, who described him as

The wisest, brightest, meanest of mankind.

1. *Bacon*. Be careful to avoid the popular error of speaking of this man as *Lord Bacon*. Bacon was his surname; but the term Lord is always prefixed to a *title*, and not a *name*. His title was St. Albans. Call him, therefore, either Francis Bacon, or Lord St. Albans.

4. *Perverted*. Moved from the right course.

5. *Engrossed*. Absorbed.

- 7. *Ostentatious*. Intended to attract public attention. .
Pope. A famous poet who flourished in the reigns of Queen Anne and George I. and George II. Lived 1688-1744.

CHARLES I.

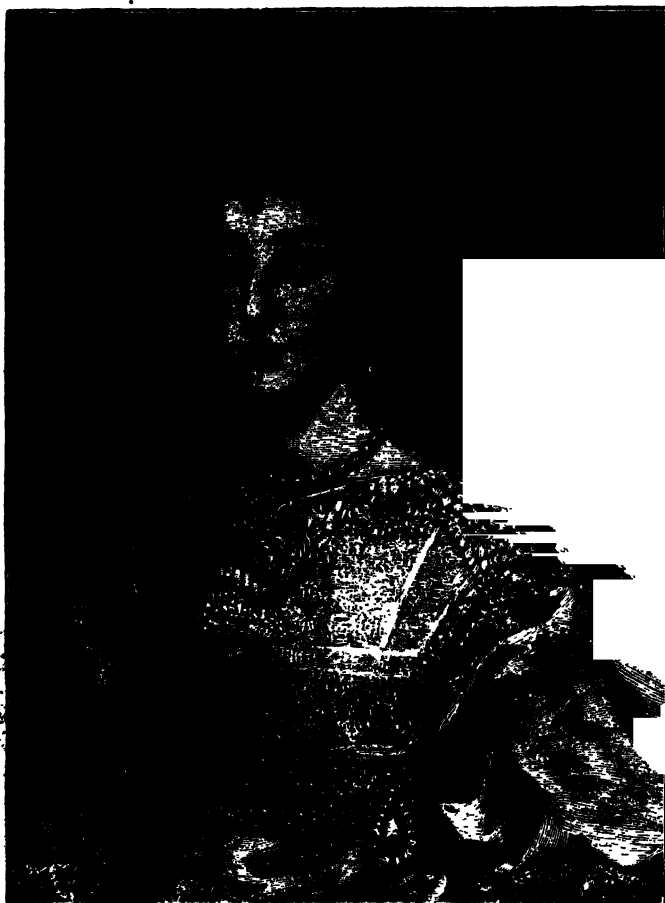
1625-1649

10.—Sir Thomas Darnel and the Forced Loan

1. James I. was succeeded by his son Prince Charles, who, at the time of his accession, was twenty-five years of age. For many years he had been under the influence of his father's favourite, the Duke of Buckingham; and had also been affected by his father's notions as to the Divine right of kings. This might have been remedied, but the evil influence of Buckingham had had a serious effect upon his character. Instead of being straightforward and open in his conduct, he was evasive and double-dealing. To his education, and to these traits of character, may be attributed a large part of the troubles which happened during his reign. As the Spanish Alliance had come to nothing, Charles married Henrietta Maria, a princess of France.

2. During the reign of James it was seen that the whole of the people were gradually dividing themselves into two parties—(1) the *Court party*, who favoured the king; and (2) the *Country party*, who opposed him. The latter were also in favour of more power being given to the people.

3. Charles's *First Parliament* met in 1625, shortly



HENRIETTA MARIA.

after he came to the throne; and among its members were many of the country party, who had suffered for

their opposition to the will of the King. They saw an unbounded power wielded by the King, and were resolved to make use of his necessities to reduce the chance of its exercise.

4. Such being their frame of mind, it was likely that there would be considerable friction between the Crown and the Commons. Charles wanted £700,000. The Parliament gave him only a fifth of the sum; and when he asked for more to carry on the war with Spain, instead of granting his request, the Commons wished to make an inquiry into the conduct of Buckingham—to whom the war was due. Like his father, Charles stood by his favourite, and dissolved the Parliament.

5. Next year the King called together his *Second Parliament*; in which many of the strongest opponents of the King's policy were prevented from taking their seats. Notwithstanding this, the members proceeded to impeach Buckingham, on whom they laid the blame of all the evils that had befallen the country; and for a second time Charles saved him from trial by dissolving the Parliament.

6. The King, however, could not do without money; and so in the year 1626, he exacted a *Forced Loan* from the people. But a certain Sir Thomas Darnel refused to pay; and, with four of his friends, who followed his example, was cast into prison by Charles's commands.

7. It was part of the law of the land that a prisoner accused of a crime could make an application to the judges to have his case heard without delay; and so could avoid being left in confinement for many years while waiting for a trial. This process was called suing out a writ of Habeas Corpus, and you

will read more about it later on. Sir Thomas Darnel and his friends applied for these writs, because they were afraid that the King might be content with having them in custody, and might take no further steps in the matter.

8. But when application was made for the writs, in order that they might be brought to trial as quickly as possible, the governor of the prison in which they were confined declared that they had been imprisoned by special command of the King, and that, therefore, the ordinary writ was of no avail.

9. There was a great panic and disturbance throughout the country at this, because, if what the governor said was correct, it meant that the King had power to shut up anybody he pleased, and could keep him in prison as long as he liked. Such a course of behaviour would be an interference with the liberty of the subject; a principle which had been clearly established four hundred years before by Magna Charta.

10. The anger throughout England was so great that Charles thought it best to release Darnel and his companions, and to summon a *Third Parliament* to try once again if he could not get money by lawful means. But the members of Parliament were frightened at the King's action; and refused to grant him anything until he had signed a document which they presented to him, and which was called the Petition of Right.

1. *Evasive*. Shuffling; deceitful.

Traits. Features, or peculiarities.

4. *Friction*. Literally, the rubbing of one thing against another.

Hence a term applied to disagreements or quarrels.

9. *Panic*. A sudden fright or terror.

11.—The Petition of Right, 1628

1. This Petition is a very important thing to understand and remember, because it is one of the three great compacts which have been made between king and people in the course of English history; and it is by reason of these compacts that at present the English nation is more free than any other in the world.

2. The first of the compacts was Magna Charta, which was signed by King John in 1215; in which it was declared that no man should suffer from injustice, and that a person accused of any offence should be tried by his fellow-countrymen, and so should not be subjected to imprisonment or punishment at the mere wish of the King.

3. The second was the Petition of Right, which we are just going to read about; and the third was the Bill of Rights, of which you will find an account towards the end of this book.

4. The Petition of Right did not contain any principle that was new; but only repeated and enforced what had often been said before — either in Magna Charta, or in what were known as Confirmations of that charter.

5. It laid down four points, to which the Commons begged the King to agree; and these points were (1) that there should be no more forced loans, that is, that money should not be taken from the nation except by the consent of Parliament; (2) that there should be no more arbitrary imprisonment, as had been inflicted upon Sir Thomas Darnel; (3) that soldiers

should not be billeted upon private households ; and (4) that martial law should be employed no longer.

6. The last two things had frequently been done by Charles and by his father, and had caused a great deal of expense and trouble, and even sometimes danger to the people ; so that Parliament was particularly anxious to see them abolished.

7. Charles, after some demur, agreed to the Petition of Right, and it became law ; while the Commons, to show their gratitude to the King, instantly granted him the money he asked for. Buckingham at once proceeded to make use of it for fitting out an expedition to relieve the Huguenots at La Rochelle, who were fighting against the French king. He had already been on one expedition for this purpose, and had fared most disastrously ; but just before starting the second time, he was assassinated at Portsmouth by a man named John Felton, who murdered him, as he said, " for the honour of his God, his King, and his country."

8. When, in the early part of the next year, the Parliament met again for its second session, some disgraceful scenes took place. Charles was attacked upon money matters, and also upon religious affairs. He sent a message down to the Speaker of the House of Commons to adjourn the House ; but the members would not listen to the messenger ; and when the Speaker tried to rise and to go away, two members rushed forward, and by main force held him down in his seat, until a resolution, moved by Sir John Eliot, was put and carried.

9. This resolution was to the effect that any one who should pay money to the King by way of taxes which Parliament had not granted, should be counted

an enemy of his country. When this was made known to the King, he imprisoned several of the unruly members, and dissolved the Parliament, declaring that in future he would govern without one. This course he followed for the next eleven years.

1. *Compacts.* Agreements.

5. *Billet.* To compel people to provide food and lodging for soldiers in their houses, while a regiment is on the march.

Martial law. Law used in the army for military matters, which is more summary in its procedure than civil law.

7. *Huguenots.* French Protestants.

La Rochelle. On the west coast of France.

12.—Sir John Eliot, 1570-1632

1. Among the most prominent opponents of Charles I. was Sir John Eliot. He came of a good family in the West of England, and had large estates in Cornwall, for which county he sat in Parliament.

2. In 1626, he joined the party who were determined to put an end to corruption and favouritism in the government of the country. Notwithstanding the anger of the King, he spoke strongly against the sale of honours and of judicial places. In a great rage at the accusations levelled against Buckingham, Charles committed Sir John Eliot to prison, but, after a confinement of eight days, was compelled to assent to his release.

3. When the Petition of Right was being discussed, Sir John Eliot pleaded eloquently for its acceptance, and when an evasive attempt was made by the King to prevent it having due force, he denounced Buckingham as the cause of all the mischief. In the following

year Sir John moved a formal remonstrance against the levying of tonnage and poundage by the King without the consent of Parliament, and it was at the putting of this motion that the assault was made upon the Speaker which is described in the last lesson.

4. For the part he took in this matter, Sir John Eliot, with several others, was arrested and thrown into prison. Soon afterwards he was tried in the Court of King's Bench on a criminal information laid by the Attorney-General. He refused to acknowledge the right of any court to review the proceedings of a member in the House of Commons. Notwithstanding his plea, he was condemned to pay a fine of £2000, and to be imprisoned in the Tower of London during the King's pleasure, or until he made a humble submission.

5. This proved to be a sentence of death upon Sir John. In anticipation of such a punishment, his estates had been made over to trustees, and his sons were confided to the care of his friend John Hampden. Then he went to the Tower, prepared to bear as patiently as possible the indignities which the King was placing upon him.

6. While in prison he was allowed writing materials. He frequently corresponded with Hampden, and occupied himself in writing a treatise on Government. But the confinement was harsh and rigorous, and gradually increased in severity. Feeling his end approaching, he at last solicited the King to allow him freedom for a space to visit his native county, undertaking to return to prison on the improvement of his health.

7. But the implacability of Charles knew no bounds. Across the bottom of the request he wrote

"Not humble enough," and the prisoner was allowed to die. His death took place on the 27th of November 1632. Even after his death the hatred of Charles followed him. His son sent a humble petition to the King to secure his father's body for burial in the family vault among his ancestors. Charles's enmity would only allow him to write at the foot of the petition, "Let Sir John Eliot's body be buried in the church of that parish where he died." Accordingly, his remains were thrust into an obscure corner of the Tower Church.

3. *Tonnage and Poundage.* Customs duties upon wine and merchandise.
7. *Implacability.* The state of mind which refuses to be appeased, or to grant pardon.

13.—Absolute Government

1. Charles now commenced a course of conduct which ultimately led to the Civil War and to his own execution. Deprived of the help of Buckingham, he chose for his advisers Sir Thomas Wentworth and Archbishop Laud. Wentworth at first belonged to the people's party, but had been won over to the side of the King. He was sent as Lord President to the north of England, and ruled so absolutely that the people were deprived of all the privileges ensured to them by Magna Charta and the Petition of Right. In 1633 he was sent as Lord Deputy to Ireland, where he governed with the same strictness as in England. Seven years later he was created Earl of Strafford.

2. Laud was intensely hated by the Puritans; for he reissued the "Book of Sports" of James I., which, according to their view, induced the people to break the Sabbath. He brought numerous ceremonies into the services of the Church, and punished with great severity all who were opposed to him.

3. Under the advice of these two men Charles was led into many unwise actions. Although by assenting to the *Petition of Right* he had agreed that it was unlawful to tax the people without the consent of Parliament, he now employed every means to raise money. He levied tonnage and poundage, and increased the duties upon merchandise. He sold monopolies; and inflicted fines on the builders of new houses in London, on those who would not become knights, and on all who held land by disputed titles.

4. But the method of raising money which roused the people most was the imposition of *ship-money* on inland towns and districts. Ship-money had, in Anglo-Saxon times, been levied only on the towns on the coast for the purpose of maintaining a fleet to defend the country from her enemies. The friends of the King intended it now for other purposes; but the people declared it was illegal to levy it on inland places.

5. There was great need for a fleet to defend the shores of the country. The French and the Dutch were in the habit of visiting the English fishing-grounds, and they disputed the claim of England to rule the sea. Even the pirates of Algiers visited our coasts, and actually carried away English people as slaves.

6. But without the consent of Parliament, people

refused to pay the imposition; and John Hampden, a gentleman of Buckinghamshire, was arrested and tried because of his refusal. Seven of the judges declared it legal for the King to levy the tax when once he had declared its necessity. Five of them, however, were of a different opinion; but the King did not gain much by the trial, for the people began to see that if this decision was to hold good, not only their property, but their entire liberties, and even their lives were completely at the mercy of Charles.

7. The King was enabled, to do all these illegal things by a system which seemed to give him the power he wanted according to law, but which yet really broke the spirit of the law. Some centuries before—probably as early as the time of Edward III., who reigned from 1327 to 1377—there had been a court of law called the Star-Chamber. It had at first been little more than an ordinary court; and its power declined until the period of the Tudors, when Henry VII. revived it and gave it additional authority.

8. Henry VIII. also made great use of it; until by the end of Elizabeth's reign it had won quite a different position for itself from that which was originally intended, and was employed by the Crown as a means of oppression and of actual injustice. In these later times, it did not act in the same way as an ordinary Court of Law, but was arbitrary in all that it did; and its judgments could not be questioned.

9. It was by means of this Court that Charles was enabled to do so many things which were really contrary to the law of the land; and yet, as he got the sanction of a Court for them, it was possible for him

to say that he did not do them solely on his own authority.

10. Then he arranged ecclesiastical matters just as he liked, by means of the Court of High Commission, which had enormous power over all things and people



STAR-CHAMBER.

connected with the Church. A third establishment of a similar kind was the Council of the North, which had complete control over the people of Yorkshire, Durham, Northumberland, and Westmoreland. When Strafford was sent down to the north of England, this Court did there what the Star-Chamber did over the remainder of England.

2. *Book of Sports.* The name given to a declaration of James I., issued in 1618, which permitted all those who had

attended church to indulge in dancing, archery, and leaping on Sundays. It was bitterly opposed by the Puritans.

5. *Algiers.* The chief city of Algeria in North Africa.

14.—Troubles with Scotland

1. One of the chief desires of James I. had been to further the overthrow of Presbyterianism and the introduction of Episcopacy into Scotland. Charles wished to bring about the same thing; but like his father he was doomed to disappointment, and his efforts were met by determined opposition on the part of the Scots.

2. A new Prayer Book had been compiled for use in their churches, but they did not mean quietly to submit to its introduction. At St. Giles's Church, Edinburgh, a considerable uproar took place when the minister began to read from the book. Loud cries, hissing and groans were heard, and eventually stools, stones, and other missiles were thrown at the minister's head. The Town Council declared they would have none of the book; and Charles determined to take measures to punish them for their contumacy.

3. The Scots now renewed a *Solemn Covenant* which had been first started in 1557, during the reign of Elizabeth, by which they bound themselves to defend Presbyterianism, and to stand by the King and by each other in defence of the religion, the liberties, and the laws of the kingdom. This was signed by large numbers of the people, in many places, in their own blood. When Charles annulled all the proceedings of an assembly which met at Glasgow for the purpose of putting an end to Episco-

pacy in Scotland, the people resolved to fight for their religious liberties.

4. Charles raised an army of 20,000 men to subdue the Scots, but they had collected a still larger force; and at Berwick, where the opposing forces met, he found it wiser to enter into negotiations with them, by which he agreed to call a Parliament for the purpose of settling all the differences between him and them.

5. On his return to England Charles did summon a Parliament, but asked it for money to allow him to renew the war against the Scots. The Parliament, however, preferred the redress of grievances to quarrels with their neighbours; and Charles in anger dissolved it in the course of three weeks.

6. Next, by force and the exercise of other illegal methods, he raised sufficient money to collect another army. But the Scots general, Leslie, had already crossed into England, and routing the English at Newburn, he took possession of Newcastle. He next caused Wentworth, who led the English, to retreat first to Northallerton and then to York, where Charles again agreed to call a Parliament.

7. This Parliament met in 1640, and was not dissolved till 1660. It thus existed for twenty years, a greater length of time than any other. From this fact it got the name by which it is always known, — the Long Parliament; and at first it did a great deal towards remedying the evils which had been brought about by the errors and false policy of Charles.

8. It abolished the Star-Chamber, the Court of High Commission, and the Council of the North; and insisted that the law should be administered by means

of the ordinary Courts. It also passed an Act which was known as the Triennial Act, declaring that a Parliament should meet at least every three years; and thus prevented the King from ruling without a Parliament, as he had done from 1629 to 1640.

2. *Would have none of.* Would not accept on any conditions.
Contumacy. Obstinate refusal.

15.—The Death of Strafford

1. In 1633, Wentworth had been transferred from the North of England to Ireland, where he acted as Lord Deputy. In Ireland he continued his efforts on behalf of the King, and thus gave offence to all classes of the people, Protestant and Catholic alike. He angered the Protestants by compelling them to receive the articles of the English Church, while he carried out the penal laws against the Catholics with great severity.

2. When the Long Parliament met in 1640, immediately set about passing measures to ensure public liberty. One method of doing this was by imprisoning those persons who had been the instruments of the King's oppressions. Within a short time, Archbishop Laud and Wentworth, who had that same year been created Earl of Strafford, were both committed to the Tower.

3. Strafford was tried for endeavouring to subvert the laws of the land, for raising money on his own authority, and for compelling persons to receive troops in their houses while he was deputy in Ireland. The judges agreed that by these acts he was guilty of high treason. Strafford appealed in vain to the King,

on whose behalf all his acts had been committed, Charles did all he could to save him; but his enemies were too strong, and popular riots were threatened. Strafford was beheaded on Tower Hill, London, in May 1641.

4. "Strafford moved on to the scaffold with undisturbed composure. His body, so soon to be released, had given him a respite of its infirmities for that trying hour. Rushworth, the Clerk of the Parliament, was one of the spectators, and has minutely described the scene. 'When he arrived outside the Tower, the Lieutenant desired him to take coach at the gate, lest the enraged mob should tear him in pieces. "No," said he, "Mr. Lieutenant, I dare look death in the face, and the people too; have you a care I do not escape; 'tis equal to me how I die, whether by the stroke of the executioner, or by the madness and fury of the people, if that may give them better content."'

5. "Not less than 100,000 persons, who had crowded in from all parts, were visible on Tower Hill, in a long and dark perspective. Strafford, in his walk, took off his hat frequently, and saluted them, and received not a word of insult or reproach. His step and manner are described by Rushworth to have been those of a general marching at the head of an army, to breathe victory, rather than those of a condemned man, to undergo the sentence of death.'

6. "At his side, upon the scaffold, stood his brother, Sir George Wentworth, the Bishop of Armagh, the Earl of Cleveland, and others of his friends,—and behind them the indefatigable collector Rushworth, who 'being then on the scaffold with him,' as he says, took down the speech which, having asked their

patience first, Strafford at some length addressed to the people. He declared the innocence of his intentions, whatever might have been the construction of his acts, and said that the prosperity of his country was his fondest wish. But it augured ill, he told them, for the people's happiness, to write the commencement of a reformation in letters of blood. 'One thing I desire to be heard in,' he added, 'and do hope that for Christian charity's sake I shall be believed. I was so far from being against Parliaments, that I did always think Parliaments in England to be the happy constitution of the kingdom and nation, and the best means, under God, to make the King and his people happy.'

7. "He then turned to take leave of the friends who had accompanied him to the scaffold. He beheld his brother weeping excessively. 'Brother,' he said, 'what do you see in me to cause these tears? Does any innocent fear betray in me—guilt? or my innocent boldness—atheism? Think that you are now accompanying me the fourth time to my marriage-bed. That block must be my pillow, and here I shall rest from all my labours. No thoughts of envy, no dreams of treason, nor jealousies, nor cares, for the King, the State, or myself, shall interrupt this easy sleep. Remember me to my sister, and to my wife; and carry my blessing to my eldest son, and to Ann, and Arabella, not forgetting my little infant, that knows neither good nor evil, and cannot speak for itself. God speak for it, and bless it!' While undressing himself, and winding his hair under a cap, he said, looking on the block, 'I do as cheerfully put off my doublet at this time as ever I did when I went to bed.'

8: “ ‘Then,’ proceeds Rushworth, closing this memorable scene, ‘then he called, “Where is the man that shall do this last office (meaning the executioner)? call him to me.” When he came and asked him forgiveness, he told him he forgave him and all the world. Then kneeling down by the block, he went to prayer again by himself, the Bishop of Armagh kneeling on the one side, and the minister on the other; to the which minister after prayer he turned himself, and spoke some few words softly; having his hands lifted up, the minister closed his hands with his. Then bowing himself to the earth, to lay down his head on the block, he told the executioner that he would first lay down his head to try the fitness of the block and take it up again, before he laid it down for good and all; and so he did; and before he laid it down again he told the executioner that he would give him warning when to strike, by stretching forth his hands; and then he laid down his neck on the block, stretching out his hands; the executioner struck off his head at one blow, then took the head up in his hand, and showed it to all the people, and said, “God save the King!” ’ ”

FORSTER.

3. *Subvert.* Overturn.

4. *Respite.* Relief for a little time.

7. *Atheism.* Want of belief in the existence of God.

16.—The Arrest of the Five Members

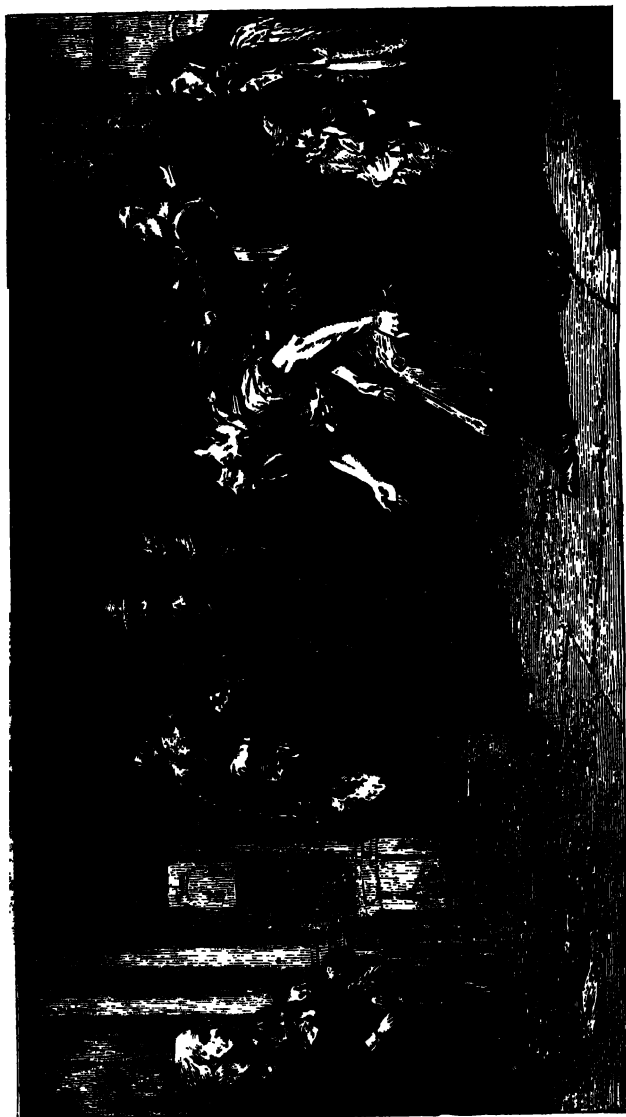
1. Very shortly afterwards the Irish, the majority of whom were Catholics, seeing that both the English

and the Scotch had gained concessions from the King, rose in rebellion. They tried to seize Dublin, but were prevented. Their failure rendered them desperate, and they gave themselves up to plunder and butchery. It is said that 40,000 Protestants lost their lives. Scenes of the most horrible cruelty were witnessed. Women and children suffered the grossest outrages, being turned naked into the streets, and there treated with barbarous fierceness. Men were burned in their own houses, or forced at the point of the bayonet into the rivers, and then left to drown. In this way the Catholics tried to revenge themselves for the cruelty which had so long been exercised against them, and which had reached its climax under Strafford's government.

2. The Parliament attributed all the troubles which had come upon the country to Papists, the bishops, and the clergy, who were said to do everything in their power to subvert the liberties of the people of England. In a Grand Remonstrance which was presented to the King, these views were fully expressed. Charles promised to redress grievances, but would not give the Parliament the power to appoint those who should be his ministers.

3. Soon after, he had reason to suspect that five members of the House of Commons were guilty of treason, and sent a message to the House of Lords, impeaching them of this crime. They were accused of tampering with the army, and of inviting the Scots to invade England; but when Charles demanded that they should be given up, Parliament refused to let them go.

4. Charles then attempted to do something which,



CHARLES LEAVING WESTMINSTER HALL AFTER ATTEMPTING TO ARREST THE FIVE MEMBERS.

in the end, proved a most rash and ill-judged thing. He went down to the House with an armed force and endeavoured to arrest the five members himself, but they had heard of his coming, and had taken refuge in the city of London. Here they remained in safety for a week, but at the end of that time returned amidst great rejoicings to Westminster.

5. From this time, although attempts were made to settle the differences between the King and the Commons, it may be said that the rupture was complete. The Parliament asked for the control of the militia and for other concessions, which Charles refused, retiring at once to York. He then tried unsuccessfully to gain possession of Hull, where there was a large arsenal, and which was considered the most important town of the north. Shortly afterwards Charles removed to Nottingham, at which place he set up his standard, and this was taken by the Parliament as a declaration of hostilities.

6. The country was now completely divided into two parties. On the side of the King were ranged nearly all the nobility and gentry of the country. The Parliament was supported by London and the principal manufacturing towns, by the middle classes, and by Nonconformists generally. The supporters of the King were called *Cavaliers*, and the Parliamentarians were called *Roundheads*.

7. A greater contrast could hardly be imagined than that presented by these two classes of people. The Cavaliers were fond of personal liberty, and of freedom in religion and ordinary conduct. Hence they disliked intensely the narrowness which characterised the Presbyterians. In dress they adopted

colours which were gay and cheerful; in manner they were graceful and agreeable. The commoners addicted themselves to boisterous merriment and habits, but all were animated by a jovial disposition. Dressed in a richly-laced cloak, a broad-brimmed hat trimmed with feathers, and a silken doublet, and having long flowing hair, a peaked beard, and a moustache, a Cavalier presented as picturesque an appearance as can well be imagined.

8. The Roundheads, on the other hand, wore clothes of the most quiet colours, usually brown or black; round the neck of the cloak was a plain white collar, while on their closely-cropped heads they wore a high sugarloaf-shaped hat. It was from this fashion of cropping their hair that they gained their nickname. Instead of spending their leisure moments in riotous revellings, they passed them in hearing long exhortations from their ministers, in Bible reading, and in prayers.

9. In the earlier period of the war the Roundheads were decidedly inferior to the Royalists. The character of the arms of that day made the cavalry of great importance in a battle. Unaccustomed as they were to the saddle,—large numbers of them being only ploughmen and tradesmen,—the Roundheads were no match for the free intrepid spirits who gathered round the King.

10. Of those who threw in their lot with Charles some did so because they had been taught that they must hold to the Crown; others joined him out of gratitude. Some were on his side not because they liked all he had done, but because they disliked the actions of the Parliament more. Some went because

they did not wish to be taunted as cowards; while others believed the cause was a holy one, and thought that whoever lost his life in it would be counted a martyr.

11. In like manner various motives influenced the supporters of the Parliamentary forces. Anger at the King's conduct and hatred of the English Church and her bishops were among the principal reasons which guided them in their decision. Religious liberty was deemed necessary, and they did not see any other way of securing it than by opposing the King and overturning the Government.

7. *Commoners.* Persons without titles.

Boisterous. Noisy.

Jovial. Cheerful and merry.

9. *Intrepid.* Extremely brave.

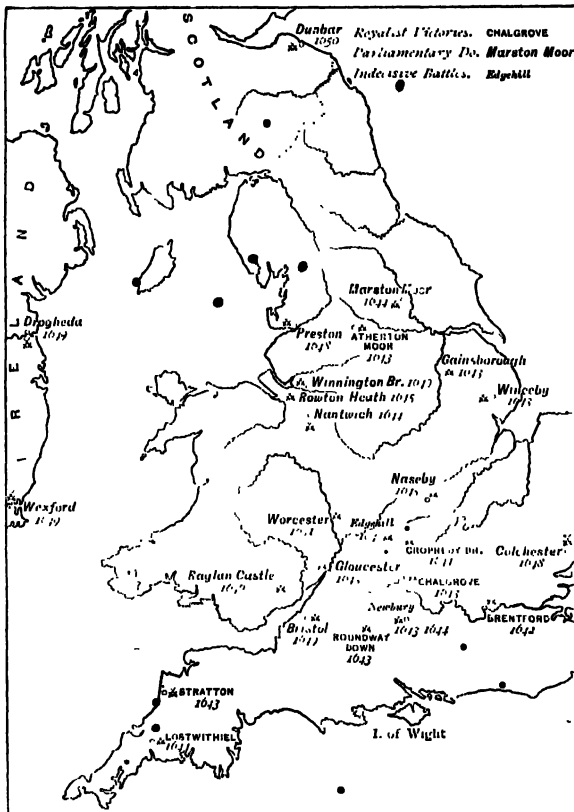
THE CIVIL WARS

17.—The First Civil War, 1642-1645

1. Roughly speaking, the north and west of England were on the side of the King, and the south and south-east on the side of the Parliament. Charles's first move, therefore, was to attempt to gain possession of London; a plan in which he was almost successful, but was at last frustrated when only a few miles off the capital.

2. Sixty-five peers and half the Commons supported Charles; while twenty peers, the other half of

the Commons, and a great number of tradespeople. threw in their lot with the Roundheads. But these



Hacker & Bond, 1846.

BATTLE-FIELDS AND SIEGES OF THE CIVIL WARS.

people were not much accustomed to horsemanship, or to military life, and consequently the Royal cavalry,

commanded by Prince Rupert, a nephew of the King, gained many advantages over them at first.

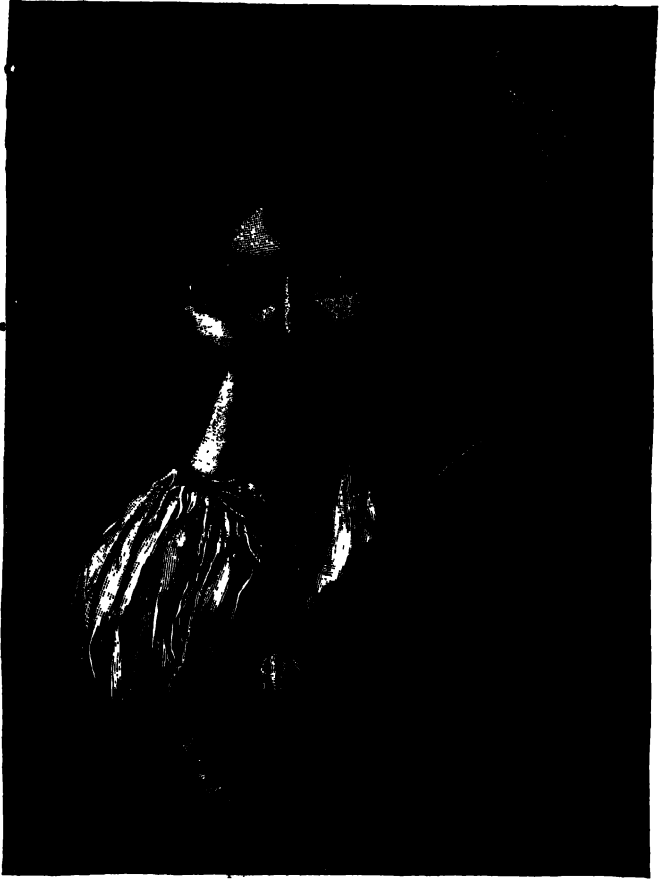
3. Charles had moved across England from Nottingham to Shrewsbury, before he began his advance upon London; and the first battle was fought at Edgehill in Warwickshire, where the Earl of Essex, the Parliamentary general, tried in vain to check the Royalist advance, but found the power of Rupert's cavalry too great to be resisted.

4. Charles got as far as Brentford, a town then about ten miles distant from London, but now almost part of it; and here he was met by a body of the best troops the Roundheads then had, the famous trained bands from the city, who marched boldly out and compelled the King to retire. Had he, however, been able to take London and all its wealth, the whole war would probably have come to an end.

5. Charles next retired to Oxford, which he made his headquarters; and a campaign was carried on in the country between Oxford and London. In a skirmish at Chalgrove Field, Hampden received a wound of which he died five days later. Meanwhile the Royalists were successful in the west of England and in the north; where they had won the whole of Yorkshire, except the town of Hull, and to this they laid siege.

6. After a period of four months this siege was raised; and a victory was won for the Roundheads at Winceby in Lincolnshire, by which all of that county was secured to their side. This result was largely brought about by the help of a country squire from Huntingdon named Oliver Cromwell, who

commanded the van in the battle. Both the King and the Parliament then turned for help outside



PRINCE RUPERT.

England. Charles brought over from Ireland such of his troops as were stationed there; and the Parlia-

'ment arranged a compact with the Scots which was known as the Solemn League and Covenant, in which the Scots promised to fight for the Parliament on condition that the Presbyterian religion was protected.

7. As a result of this Covenant, the Scots joined forces with Fairfax, the Parliamentary general; and at Marston Moor, a few miles from York, inflicted a crushing defeat upon Charles's army. From this time, Oliver Cromwell came more and more to the front. He had been the first to realise that the rabble who fought on the Parliament side could never withstand disciplined troops, such as Prince Rupert's Horse; and he had, therefore, given a great deal of time and energy towards raising a body of cavalry which should be sufficiently good to oppose them. In this he was successful, and Cromwell's Ironsides, as they were called, soon became as famous as the regiments on the Royalist side.

8. But Cromwell brought about another change, which had even a greater result. The Parliamentary army was commanded by members of Parliament, and there were often differences of opinion as well as lack of military skill among them. Cromwell insisted on the commands being given to men who were really soldiers, and persuaded the Parliament to agree to a *Self-denying Ordinance* by which those who held command gave up their posts, and all the troops were put into the hands of Fairfax. The result was soon apparent. Charles was totally beaten at Naseby; and in 1646, he surrendered to the Scots.

18.—John Hampden

1. John Hampden was born in 1594. He came of a distinguished family which had settled in Buck-



MAGDALEN COLLEGE, OXFORD.

inghamshire before the Norman Conquest. When Hampden was three years of age his father died, and left him the heir to a very large estate. While young

he was sent to a school at Thame, but at fifteen he was entered as a student of Magdalen College, Oxford.

2. On leaving the University he became a student at the Inner Temple, where he made himself acquainted with the principles of English law. In 1619 he married, and the following year was elected member of Parliament for the borough of Grampound.

3. Lord Clarendon, one of the historians of that day, says of his early years, "He indulged himself in all the license in sports and exercises and company which were used by men of the most jolly conversation. On a sudden, from a life of great pleasure and license, he retired to extraordinary sobriety and strictures to a more reserved and melancholy society." With the morals of a Puritan he had the manners of an accomplished courtier, and at the crisis in the history of his country, in which he afterwards took such a prominent part, his natural cheerfulness, vivacity, and courtesy were of scarcely less service than his sagacity and dauntless courage.

4. During the reign of James I. Hampden did not take any prominent part in public matters; but after Charles's Second Parliament had been dissolved, when money was to be raised by a forced loan, he took a firm stand against the action of the King and refused to lend a farthing. For his refusal, and for the spirited answer he gave to the Privy Council in reply to those who asked his reasons, he was sent to prison, where he remained some time.

5. On his release he was again returned to Parliament, and took part in the memorable events of 1629. After the dissolution he spent a number of years in the quiet and seclusion of a country life, performing

with great activity all the duties of a landed gentleman and a magistrate. During this time, too, he kept up a close correspondence with Sir John Eliot, who was then confined in the Tower, and interested himself in the care of Sir John's sons, who were a great source of anxiety to their father.

6. When the levying of ship-money was started, and Hampden was requested to pay a small sum of money as his portion of the tax, he refused, and determined to bear all the expenses of a trial to prove the illegality of the King's action. If he had not been prominent before, this brought him before the world, every one inquiring who and what he was who dared at his own risk to support the liberty and prosperity of the country. The great trial took place in 1636, before all the judges of England. The arguments lasted many days, and the law was so manifestly in favour of Hampden, that even though the judges held their places at the pleasure of the King, only seven of the twelve gave their verdict against Hampden.

7. Although he was condemned to pay the money, his courage in resisting the King raised his reputation among the people; and the public indignation against Charles became stronger than ever. The person of Hampden was now scarcely safe, and he and his kinsman, Oliver Cromwell, determined to leave the country for America. When actually on board the ship, an order of the Privy Council prevented it from sailing, and the two men most prominent in procuring the downfall of the King were thus kept in England.

8. In 1640 assembled the most famous Parliament which has ever sat in England, and Hampden

was one of the most conspicuous of its members. But in all the controversies which took place, Hampden did his best on the side of peace.

9. Then came the Civil War. Hampden spared neither money nor himself in the conflict. He gave £2000 to the public service, and took a commission in the army, raising a regiment of infantry in his own country. He made himself thoroughly proficient in his military duty, and showed that he had in him the capacity of a great general as well as that of a great statesman.

10. When Charles attempted to force his way to the capital from Oxford, Hampden led a small force against Prince Rupert and met him on Chalgrove Field. Hampden was fatally wounded, and died near his own residence. He was buried in the church at Hampden, his last moments having been spent in prayers for his country.

1. *Thame.* A small town in Oxfordshire.

19.—The Second Civil War

1. After the surrender of Charles to the Scots there came a period of great confusion, and of religious bickerings and disputes. England was governed by ordinances of the Lords and Commons; and Presbyterianism had been established in the place of Episcopacy. Charles was of course strongly opposed to this; and thereby still more angered the Scots, in whose hands he was. At last, on payment of a sum of £400,000, they gave him over to the Parliament, and went back to their own country.

2. Charles was lodged at Holmby House, in

Northamptonshire, and was there treated well, and with great respect. He entertained strong hopes at this time of being King again; for, as was to be expected, the Parliament and the army had begun to quarrel bitterly; and Charles thought a good chance of success for him lay in playing off one party against another.

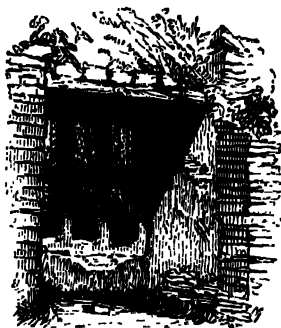


CARISBROOKE.

3. The Parliament demanded that he should abandon his right to appoint either ministers of state or officers of the militia, and that he should consent to the establishment of Presbyterianism. On the other hand, the Independents, as great numbers of the men in the army were called, were willing that

•Episcopacy should be maintained, if only toleration were granted to Dissenters.

4. As there was no prospect of agreement between these two parties, Fairfax and Cromwell marched the army upon London, determined to make their own terms with the King, and to control the Parliamentary party as they thought fit. Charles escaped from his virtual confinement, and took refuge in the Isle of Wight; where, however, he fell once more into the



CARISBROOKE - CHARLES'S WINDOW.

hands of his enemies, and was imprisoned in Carisbrooke Castle. He had meanwhile succeeded in persuading the Scots to come over to his side; and in 1648 there were Royalist risings in Kent and Essex; while a Scotch army crossed the Border and marched through the north of England.

5. This led to the Second Civil War. Fairfax went into Essex, and captured Colchester; Cromwell went north and defeated the Scots at Preston. On the 1st of December, the army seized Charles; and five days later, the military despotism was made use of to secure his being brought to trial. When the

members of Parliament came down that day to the House of Commons, they found a regiment of soldiers at the door commanded by Colonel Pride, who refused to admit into the House any of those members who were in favour of Presbyterianism, or who would have been inclined to make terms with the King.

6. This was known as "Pride's Purge"; and only fifty-three members were allowed to take their seats. They were, of course, all Independents, and in favour of the army, and so were ready to vote for anything that the army wanted; but the action of the army leaders, and the way in which they gained their ends, were absolutely illegal.

7. These fifty-three members, who were known as the Rump, or hinder part of a Parliament, set to work to constitute a court for the trial of the King. The House of Lords refused to have anything to do with such proceedings; and so the Rump was obliged to pass a resolution saying that whatever was enacted by the Commons had the force of law without the consent of King or Peers. This was also quite illegal, and contrary in every way to the constitution; nor would the Rump have ventured on such a course had they not had the power of the army at their backs.

1. *Dickerings.* Quarrels and disputes.

20.—The Trial and Execution of Charles

1. In December Charles, who had been taken from Charisbrooke to Hurst Castle, was removed to Windsor. He now began to fear that he would be deprived of



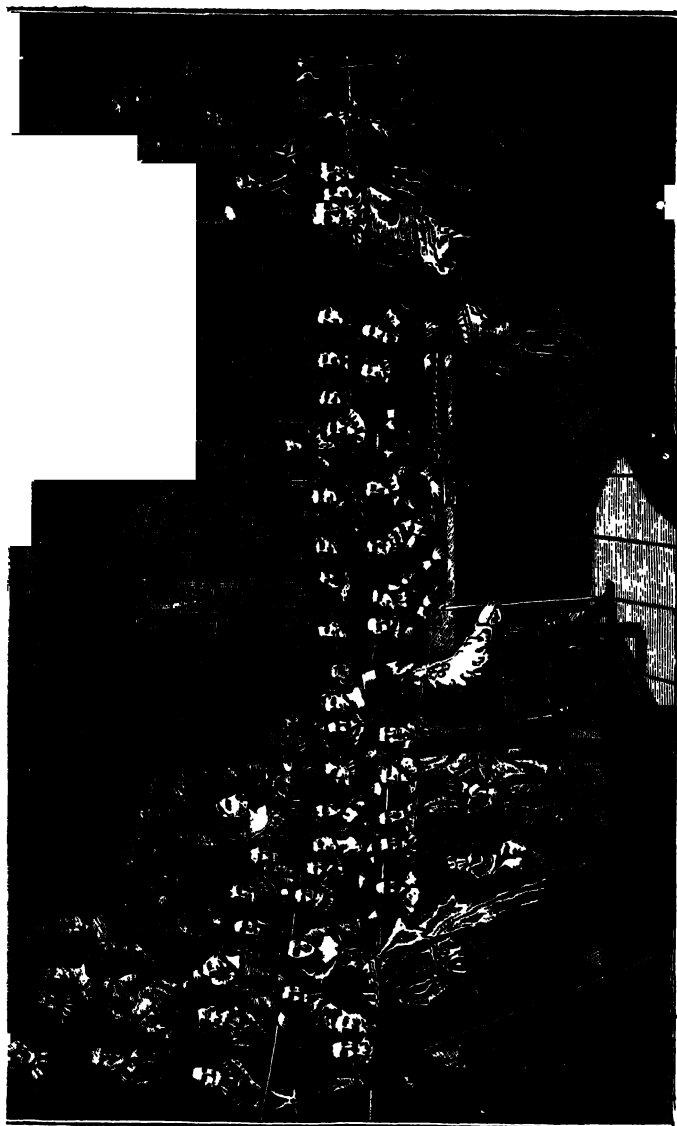
CHARLES I

the government and confined in some fortress such as the Tower. He was taken to London, and on the 20th January, 1649, he was brought before the tribunal decided upon by the Rump.

2. This Court nominally consisted of 135 members, but only sixty-three men came to it. It was presided over by Bradshaw, a lawyer of considerable eminence, and Cromwell and his son-in-law were there. The name of the great general, Fairfax, was also called; but his wife cried out, "He is not here, and never will be. You do wrong to name him." When brought before the Court, Charles refused to accept its jurisdiction. He had remained covered as he entered Westminster Hall, and so had the judges, thus signifying that they no longer paid deference to him as the King. He interrupted the reader of the indictment, which said that the supreme power had been entrusted to him by the people, saying that he possessed the royal power by hereditary right. What was considered a bad omen for Charles happened at this moment. The golden head of the staff which he used to interrupt the reader fell off, and many persons besides the King beheld the event with concern.

3. The trial went on for seven days, Charles conducting himself during the time with great dignity. At its close the Court sentenced him, "as a tyrant, traitor, murderer, and public enemy to the good people of the nation, to be put to death by severing his head from his body."

4. The execution of the sentence was delayed till the 30th of January. In the interval, Charles spent much of his time in devotion, and took an affecting farewell of his daughter Elizabeth and his third son



Henry. The two elder boys were not in England at the time. Charles bade Henry never to be made King while his brothers were alive. The little prince answered his father bravely. "I will be torn in pieces first," he said.

5. The scaffold was erected at Whitehall on the same spot as had previously been chosen by the Kings to show themselves after their coronation. Charles had been very anxious to speak once again to the people of London, and this he was allowed to do on the day of his execution. He walked from St. James's Palace to Whitehall, being followed by a number of armed soldiers, and by many of his personal attendants, who showed signs of the sorrow they felt.

6. On reaching the Banqueting Room, he had leisure to join in prayer with Bishop Juxon. When summoned to the scaffold, he looked round upon the sea of upturned faces, all bearing traces of anxiety, and many being wet with tears. Even the soldiers seemed affected, and forbore to prevent the people giving expression to the emotions which they experienced.

7. Standing by the block on which his head was shortly to be laid, he told the people that the late war with all its horrors was unjustly laid to his charge, and that the guilt lay with those of the Parliament who had deprived him of his authority. He blamed himself for having consented to the death of Strafford, and said that for this he was now suffering the just judgment of God. He could not, however, agree to give way to the demands which had been made upon him, and for that reason was dying as a martyr for his people.

8. The executioners were now ready to perform

their last office. Collecting his flowing hair, and confining it under a cap which he wore on his head, he told one of them he should say but a short prayer, and stretch out his hands as a signal for him to give the blow.

9. To Bishop Juxon, who had attended him in his trial, he said, "I have a good cause and a gracious God on my side; I go from a corruptible to an incorruptible crown, where there can be no disturbance." Then, bending to the block, he gave the signal for the axe to fall upon his neck; with one stroke the head was severed from the body, and the only answer made by the vast crowd, when the executioner raised the bleeding head saying, "This is the head of a traitor," was a bitter cry of sorrow and regret.

1. *Hurst Castle.* In Hampshire, near the entrance to the Solent.
2. *Indictment.* Accusation.
6. *Juxon.* The Bishop of London.

21.—A Coffin for King Charles

1. The following ballad was written and published in the year 1649, at the time when the Republican party declared it treason to acknowledge Charles II. as King. It is curious and interesting as showing the reaction in the public mind which was caused by the execution of Charles I.

2. CROMWELL ON THE THRONE

So, so, the deed is done,

The royal head is severed,

As I meant when I first begun,

And strongly have endeavoured.

Now Charles the First is tumbled down ;
The Second I do not fear ;
I grasp the sceptre, wear the crown,
Nor for Jehovah care.

3. KING CHARLES IN HIS COFFIN

Think'st thou, base slave, though in my grave,
Like other men I lie,
My sparkling fame and Royal name
Can, as thou wishest, die ?
Know, caitiff, in my son I live,
The Black Prince call'd by some,
And he shall ample vengeance give
To those that did my doom.

4. THE PEOPLE IN THE PIT

Supprest, deprest, involv'd in woes,
Great Charles, thy People be
Basely deceiv'd with specious shows
By those that murder'd thee ;
We are enslav'd to Tyrant's hests,
Who have our freedom won ;
Our fainting hope now only rests
On thy succeeding son.

5. CROMWELL ON THE THRONE

Base vulgar, know the more you stir,
The more your woes increase,
Your rashness will your hopes deter,
'Tis we must give you peace.

A COFFIN FOR KING CHARLES

Black Charles a traitor is proclaim'd
 Unto our dignity;
 He dies, if e'er by us he's gain'd,
 Without all remedy.

6. KING CHARLES IN HIS COFFIN

Thrice perjur'd villain! did'st not thou
 And thy degenerate train,
 By mankind's Saviour's body vow
 To me, thy sovereign,
 To make me the most glorious king
 That e'er o'er England reign'd;
 That me and mine in everything
 By you should be maintain'd?

7. THE PEOPLE IN THE PIT

Sweet Prince! O let us pardon crave,
 Of thy belov'd shade:
 'Tis we that brought thee to the grave;
 Thou wert by us betray'd.
 We did believe 'twas reformation
 These monsters did desire;
 Not knowing that thy degradation
 And death should be our hire.

8. CROMWELL ON THE THRONE

In vain, fond people, do you grudge
 And tacitly repine,
 For why? my skill and strength are such—
 Both poles of heaven are mine.

Your hands and purses⁸ both coher'd
 To raise us to this height :
 You must protect those you have rear'd,
 Or sink beneath their weight.

9. KING CHARLES IN HIS COFFIN

Singing with angels, near the Throne
 Of the Almighty Three
 I sit, and know perdition,
 Base Cromwell, waits on thee,
 And on thy yile associates :
 Twelve months shall full conclude
 Your pow'r—thus speak the pow'ful Fates,
 Then fades your interlude.

10. THE PEOPLE IN THE PIT

Yea, powerful Fates, haste, haste the time,
 The most auspicious day, .
 On which these monsters of our time
 To death must post away.
 • Meanwhile, so pare their sharpened claws,
 And so impair their stings,
 We may no more fight for the Cause, .
 Or other novel things !

3. *Caitiff*. A base fellow, a villain.
- Black Prince*. Charles II. was so called on account of his dark complexion. The original Black Prince was the son of Edward III.
4. *Hests*. Behests ; commands.
8. *Cohere'd*. Joined together.
9. *Interlude*. A short space of time between two other events.

THE COMMONWEALTH

22.—The Establishment of a Republic

1. Having got rid of the King, his enemies, disputed as to the form of government which should be adopted. Some wished to pass over Charles I.'s two elder sons, and settle the Crown with limitations upon his third son Henry, or his daughter Elizabeth. The majority, however, were in favour of a republic, and set about removing all traces of monarchy from the country. They first declared it treason to give any one the title of King; they next abolished the House of Lords as "useless and dangerous," and then declared the office of the King "unnecessary, burdensome, and dangerous, and therefore to be abolished."

2. A Council of State, consisting of thirty-eight persons, was elected to conduct the business of the country, of which council John Milton was made secretary. Complaint was soon made that the Council was more arbitrary than the late king. The taxation was so heavy that the common people were all ~~led~~ in their complaints. In this contention there was great reason, for whereas the revenue in Charles's time was less than £1,000,000, in the days of the Commonwealth it rose to upwards of £2,000,000.

3. Every opposition, however, to the Council was borne down by sheer force of arms. In Ireland the Ulster people had proclaimed Charles as king, and rose in rebellion. Cromwell was appointed commander of the army and Lord Deputy of the country for the purpose of putting down the rising. He com-

menced with the siege of Drogheda, which contained a garrison of about 3000 men. With great severity he caused the whole of them to be put to death.

4. In Wexford the same kind of slaughter took place, and so great was the terror which the massacres caused, that soon nearly all the garrisons in the country submitted to the Parliament.

5. Cromwell was then recalled to England to undertake a like expedition against the Scots, who, although fighting against Charles I., had no desire to do away with the throne. On his execution, therefore, they proclaimed his son as Charles II., on certain conditions. Not liking these terms, Charles urged the Marquis of Montrose to head a rebellion against the Scots Parliament. Then when the enterprise failed he meanly deserted him, and allowed the Marquis to be executed. Charles afterwards accepted the conditions, and was crowned at Scone.

6. Cromwell marched into Scotland with an army of 16,000 men, but found a wasted and deserted country. Unable to dislodge the Scotch army from their fortified position near Edinburgh, he retired to Dunbar, where, after being in great straits, he inflicted a signal defeat upon the Scots, who lost 3000 killed, 10,000 prisoners, and all their war material.

7. After this victory, for nearly a year, no more risings were attempted. Then Charles conceived the idea of marching into England with the hope that the Royalists and the Presbyterians would flock to his standard. In this, however, he was greatly disappointed. In three weeks from leaving Scotland he reached Worcester, where Cromwell overtook him.

8. A decisive battle took place on the anniversary

of the Battle of Dunbar, and the troops of Charles suffered a complete defeat. A great price was set upon Charles's head, and the penalty of treason was attached to any who would harbour him or aid in his escape. All who came in contact with him, however, were faithful, and he escaped to France.



CROWNING CHARLES II.

S. General Monk, one of Cromwell's famous generals, finished the subjugation of Scotland, and the Parlia-

ment was now complete master over the whole of the British Islands and her dependencies.

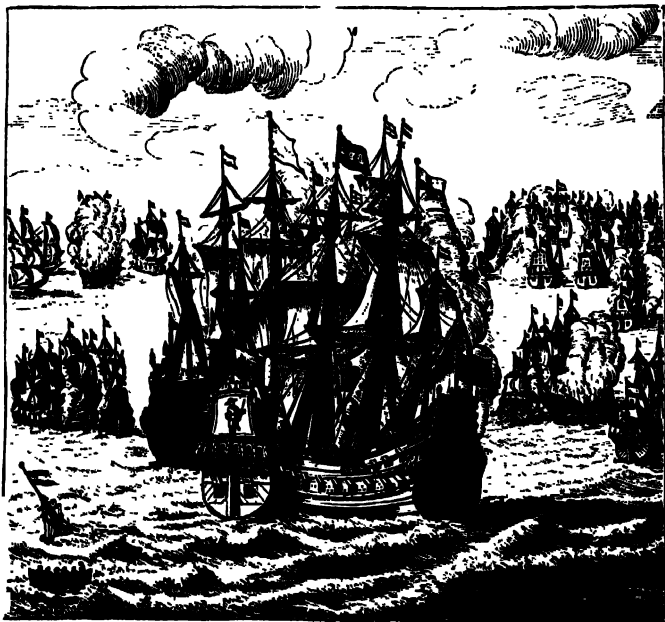
10. Not only at home, but also abroad, were the forces of the Parliament victorious. The Dutch



FLIGHT OF CHARLES II.

Republic looked with great jealousy upon the English, whose merchant ships were lessening their trade, and war was declared. Off Dover and Plymouth the English under Blake gained victories; but the Dutch Admiral, Van Tromp, defeated him near the Goodwin

Sands. So elated was he with this great victory that he sailed the Channel with a broom at the mast-head of his ship, signifying his intention to sweep the English from their own seas. His triumph was only short-lived, for in another engagement off the mouth of



THE BATTLE OFF THE TEXEL.

the Texel he was killed, and his fleet almost totally destroyed.

3. *Sheer force of arms.* The effect of armed force, mingled with any argument or other persuasion.

Drogheda. A city on the east coast of Ireland.

10. *Texel.* An island off the north coast of Holland.

23.—The Adventures of Charles II.

1. The Battle of Worcester had put an end for a time to the hopes of Charles II. ever becoming King. He endeavoured to get safely to London before the news of the battle should arrive there, but in this he was disappointed. He disguised himself as a countryman, and on hearing that his enemies were trying to intercept him, he changed his purpose, and next attempted to cross the Severn into Wales.

2. Even this mode of escape was cut off, for the ford was guarded, and he had to return to the wood at Boscobel on the borders of Staffordshire, where he was sheltered by the brothers Penderell. Here he met a friend called Colonel Careless, and so close was the pursuit that the two climbed into an oak-tree to escape detection. All day long the soldiers lingered near their hiding-place, but the leafy branches of the tree completely hid the fugitives from view.

3. Disguised as a farmer's son, and travelling under the name of Will Jackson, he acted as the servant of the wife of Colonel Lane, taking her up on a pillion on the mounted horse which he rode. In this manner he endeavoured to get to Bristol. Although attended at a distance by faithful friends, he had many narrow escapes. Unacquainted with the various duties of a servant, he was compelled to escape them by feigning illness at the houses at which they called.

4. Once he was recognised by the butler at a house where he stayed, and one of the men accurately described his dress and his person as he appeared on the field at Worcester. Having to wait for nearly a month

for a ship from Bristol, he removed to Trent in Somersetshire, while Lord Wilnot, who had followed him in all his wanderings, went to Lyme in Dorsetshire to arrange for a ship to take him from that place.

5. Disappointment followed him still. The wife of the captain suspected her husband of being engaged in some daring enterprise, and succeeded in preventing him leaving the house on the night when he was to put off with Charles to sea. At last a vessel was procured at Shoreham in Sussex. Here, too, Charles was known, but was not discovered to his enemies; and after months of hiding and great danger he successfully reached France.

6. Afterwards, when he had been restored to the throne, King Charles was very fond of talking about his adventures, and of relating the hair-breadth escapes he went through. There was one thing, he said, upon which he was quite resolved, and that was that nothing should induce him to start on his travels again; meaning that he would never quarrel with the people as his father had done, and had no intention at all of risking the throne for which he had had to wait so long.

7. Some of his adventures were laughable, in spite of their danger, as, for instance, when he once sat at table with a man who had been in his own regiment at the Battle of Worcester; and this man not only failed to recognise him, but declared that the King was at least four fingers' higher than he. At another place some servants of the house made him drink, that they might know he was not a Roundhead, as they declared he was. But some were patriotic; for at another inn the landlord, when the King was standing with his hands upon the back of a chair, kneeled down and

kissed his hand privately, saying he would not ask him who he was, but God bless him wherever he was going. And when at last he got safely over to France, he looked so poor and shabby that the people of a house in which he was staying went into his rooms before he left to make sure that he had not stolen anything belonging to them. •

3. *Pillion*. A double saddle, with a cushion upon which a woman could ride behind a man.

24.—John Milton

• 1. Next to Shakespeare, John Milton is considered the greatest English poet. He was born in Bread Street, London, in 1606, close by one of the places frequented by Shakespeare. He was educated at St. Paul's School, and at the age of nineteen, in the year when Charles I. became King, he proceeded to Christ's College, Cambridge.

2. At the University he was nicknamed the "Lady of Christ's" on account of his beauty and the gentleness and uprightness of his character. While a student he wrote many short poems, among the best known of which is perhaps the one named *On the Morning of Christ's Nativity*. Leaving Cambridge in 1632, he spent five years in close study at his father's house at Horton near Windsor. His time was chiefly devoted to reading Latin and Greek authors, and mathematics.

3. He did not, however, give up writing poetry; for, during these years, he produced a masque or play called *Comus*; as well as the *Allegro*, the *Penseroso*, and *Lycidus*. From these poems we may gather that he was gradually forming those feelings which led him

afterwards to attack all that was evil and licentious in the conduct of the Court and the Church.

4. In 1638 and 1639 he travelled in France and Italy ; but while in Naples he heard of the prospects of



MILTON.

civil war, and he made up his mind to return to join those who were fighting for liberty. On his return he settled in Aldersgate Street in London, employing himself in educating his two nephews and a few other youths who were the sons of his intimate friends.

While away he had formed the idea of writing a great epic poem to be named *Paradise Lost*.

5. But the rupture between King and Parliament came to a head, and the whole current of his life was changed. Poetry was thrown aside, and prose of a stern, strong, argumentative kind took its place.

6. His first political pamphlet was one which defended the execution of Charles I. On the establishment of the republic he was made Foreign or Latin Secretary to the Council of State. Acting under the instructions of the Council he wrote his famous Latin *Defence for the People of England* in answer to a pamphlet by a German writer supporting King Charles. So severe was the castigation he gave the writer that his fame spread all over Europe. The close application to this work told seriously upon his sight, which he completely lost in 1652.

7. This deprivation did not prevent him continuing his work on behalf of the Commonwealth. He continued his exertions with undiminished energy, and with such effect that it was only with difficulty he escaped being put to death after the Restoration. For a time he was actually detained in custody, and he had to remain in hiding till his friends secured his pardon. He settled ultimately near Bunhill Fields in London, and devoted the next five years to his poem, *Paradise Lost*.

8. This was Milton's greatest work. It describes the method by which Eden was lost to man, but tells also of the method by which man should again be able to win favour in the sight of God. It begins with a description of the awakening in hell of all those angels who had rebelled in heaven. The chiefs hold a consultation together as to the best means of carrying on

the war with God, and Satan then agrees to go forth alone to tempt man, the newly-created being, to fall. Next comes a description of the journey of Satan and his discovery of Eden, in which Adam and Eve were placed. The Archangel Michael discourses with Adam, and tells him of the war in heaven, the rebellion of the angels led by Satan, and of the creation of the world. The following books of the poem tell of the method in which Satan tempted Eve to sin: the distress of Adam when their folly is discovered, the promise for the restoration and redemption of man by Christ, and of the expulsion from Paradise.

9. In 1671 Milton published two more poems—one, *Paradise Regained*, the complement of his greatest work; the other, *Samson Agonistes*. The first of these treats of Christ's temptation by Satan and His victory; the latter is the story of Samson, his disgrace, and final victory over the Philistines.

10. In personal appearance Milton was a good type of an Englishman. He had a fair complexion, with light brown hair. He was of middle height, and well skilled in all manly sports and exercises. He was much liked by all who came in contact with him for his pleasant conversation and great acquaintance with men and things.

3. *Musque*. A dramatic entertainment with music.

6. *Castigation*. Literally, a whipping; hence, a punishment.

9. *Complement*. That which makes complete.

25.—Cromwell as Lord Protector

1. The influence of the officers of the army declined considerably while they were occupied with their various military duties. To bring it still lower the

Parliament ordered one-fourthth of the army to be disbanded, and resolved that it should be still further reduced in six months.



CROMWELL.

2. Led by Cromwell, the officers then determined to get rid of the Rump, and to secure the election of

another Parliament more amenable to their will. To this end Cromwell marched to the House of Commons with 300 soldiers. There he upbraided the members with ingratitude to the men who had bled for the people's cause, and complained of their selfishness and acts of oppression. Then with indignation he cried, "Come, come, I will put an end to this. It is not fit you should sit here any longer. You are no Parliament." He called his soldiers in, and set them to work to clear the House. After ordering the mace to be removed, he turned all the members out, locked the door, and went away. Later in the day he dismissed the Council in a similar manner, and so remained complete master of the situation.

3. Another Parliament was now called together. It consisted of men chosen by a small council from among names sent up by the Congregational Churches in the country. It was nicknamed "Barebones' Parliament" after one of the members for London, whose name was Praise-God Barbon.

4. It did not last long. Some good measures were passed, but others offended the army; and after five months it resigned its power into the hands of Cromwell. A council of officers then proposed that Cromwell should take the title of "Lord Protector of the Commonwealth." He readily consented, and in 1654 became King of England in everything except in name.

5. It was only five years since Charles had been executed, and once more the nation was ruled by one man. But his power was very limited, for his council was elected for life, and so could keep a check upon him; and he had not a power which a king always had, that of vetoing the laws. Besides which, many



CROMWELL DISMISSING THE LONG PARLIAMENT.

enemies were banded together against him, not only the Royalists, but also all the other parties into which the Roundheads had divided.

6. His first Parliament met in 1654. All Catholics and Royalists were shut out from it, but it only lasted five months. Cromwell expected that it would merely carry out his work; however, it questioned nearly everything that he wanted to do. He consequently dissolved it in January of the next year; and having by this time persuaded himself that he was called by God to rule the nation, he divided England into twelve military districts, each of which was put in charge of a major-general.

7. This, of course, meant that England was ruled despotically by martial law, which was one of the things that had been specially complained of twenty-seven years before in the Petition of Right. Cromwell's second Parliament, therefore, which met in 1656, required that the major-generals should be withdrawn, and formed a second House, which was called a House of Lords, but which only consisted of life peers. Cromwell was asked to take the title of King, but he refused. Such a title would have added to his dignity, but would have restricted his power, for the prerogative of the King was clearly defined by law.

8. In the second session of the Parliament, however, there were fresh dissensions, and the new system of government was attacked. Cromwell therefore found himself forced to do what Charles had done before him—that is, to dissolve Parliament, and to rule alone. But it was not for long. His health was breaking, and fear of assassination made him uneasy, so that he was compelled to go about with armour beneath his clothes.

His favourite daughter died, and this added to his troubles. At last an ague settled upon him, and on the 3rd of September, 1658, he breathed his last.

2. *Amenable.* Capable of being influenced.
5. *Vetoing.* Forbidding.
8. *Ague.* A painful shivering disease, often brought on by damp and cold.

26.—Cromwell's Policy and the Results of the Rebellion

1. In many ways Cromwell was a wise and an excellent ruler; but the result of his work did not, generally speaking, last long. He concluded treaties with Denmark, Sweden, and Portugal, which were of assistance to English trade, and presented many manuscripts and books to the great Bodleian Library at Oxford. His religious ordinances were fair to all sects, except that he would not allow the Royalist clergy to preach in public; and he cut down the costs of legal proceedings.

2. He planned a Protestant league on the continent to revive the policy of Elizabeth, and made an alliance with France against Spain. His fleet took Jamaica from Spain, and so laid a foundation for our territories in the West Indies; but his league with France, although it brought some immediately good results, led on to the undue preponderance of Louis XIV. in after years, in consequence of which England was embroiled with European wars all through the reigns of William III. and Anne.

3. Yet in spite of firm and steady government,

England was not happy during his time. There was peace and order in the land, but the Puritan rule was gloomy and oppressive; and the people felt that there was only a substitution of one kind of despotism for another. The law of the land was not supreme any more than it had been under Charles, nor was it really made so until the days of the Revolution.

4. Into what an unsatisfactory state things had come was at once shown upon Cromwell's death. The moment his strong hand was removed a time of terrible confusion followed. The Parliament met, and instantly fell out with the army. Richard Cromwell was appointed Protector in his father's place, but was absolutely incapable of controlling affairs. The dissensions continued until, after ten months, Richard Cromwell resigned. Then once more the general of an army stepped in, and solved the difficulties by military force.

5. George Monk was in command of some troops in Scotland; and with these he marched upon London, declaring for a free Parliament. The Rump dissolved itself, and the Long Parliament at last was at an end. In April 1660 a new and freely-elected assembly met, which was called a Convention. It could not yet have the name of Parliament, because a Parliament has to be summoned by writs from the sovereign, and at this time there was no King in England.

6. But the Convention at once passed a resolution to restore the old Government of Kings, Lords, and Commons, and issued an invitation to Charles II. to come over and take the throne. Monk had for some time past been in correspondence with Charles, who was then living in Holland. Charles put out a Declaration from Breda, where he was staying, in which

he promised to govern according to law, and to pardon those who submitted to him in forty days.

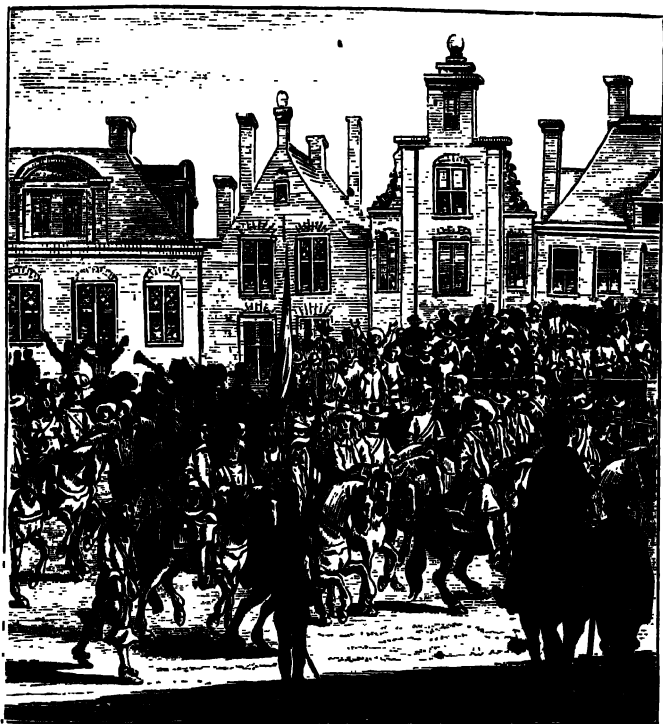
7. The Declaration was received with delight, and on the 25th May Charles landed at Dover. Four days



EMBARKATION OF CHARLES II.

later he entered London, amidst universal rejoicing, except on the part of the army. But it was impossible even for them to withstand the wishes of the whole nation, who by this time were thoroughly tired of Puritan restrictions. In this way the great Rebellion came to an end.

8. So far as its results were concerned, the cause of Monarchy was gained, and that of Republicanism was lost. But it must be noted that the Monarchy was not the same as that of Charles I., because the



ENTRY OF CHARLES II.

Acts of the Long Parliament, to which he had assented in 1640 and 1642, were still law. It was, therefore, the beginning of a limited or constitutional Monarchy, the system by which we are governed now,—a system

which secures a strong central rule, together with absolute liberty of the subject. Such an arrangement was not finally arrived at until twenty-eight years later, when William III. and Mary came to the throne.

- 9. Then the predominant influence of the House of Commons was established, though it was an influence not absolute, but held in check, if need be, by the Crown and the Lords. The supreme power is not put into any one of the three great divisions of the Constitution, and so they have to act together, or not at all. Another most important result was an aversion to a standing army, which should be in such a position as to overrule the nation by main force; and lastly, an intense distrust was developed of men who held extreme views, upon whatever side of politics they might happen to be.

6. *Breda*. A city in North Brabant.

9. *Aversion*. Dislike to; hatred of.

27.—The Emigrants in the Bermudas

1. In the year 1609 an English admiral named Sir George Somers was sailing across the Atlantic, with several vessels, on his way to Virginia. A sudden storm, however, caused his shipwreck, and he was driven on to the coast of certain islands, of which he took possession on behalf of the English King.

2. These islands were the Bermudas, which had been discovered some fifty years before by a Spaniard, who had given them their name. But when Sir George Somers had taken them for England, it was soon seen that they possessed great value as a military and naval

station, from which the colonies we then had in North America could be protected.

3. Settlers quickly went out to them, after Sir George Somers had made their merits known; some of the new colonists being people who, like the Pilgrim Fathers, were leaving England on account of their religious belief. Others had been followers of the Royalist cause, who, after the execution of Charles I., preferred to leave their native land rather than to live under a republic.

4. For whatever reason the various settlers may have gone out, they found the Bermudas a delightful home. The climate is subject neither to extreme heat nor extreme cold. The plants and fruits of a warm climate flourish in abundance; while the possibility of tropical sufferings is removed by the constant breeze that blows in from the sea.

5. The following verses were written by a man named Andrew Marvell, who had acted for a time as secretary to Milton. In them he describes the approach of a party of men who had left England on account of their religious beliefs. The poem is a noticeable and famous one, by reason of its graceful description of the charm of the islands.

6. Where the remote Bermudas ride
In th' ocean's bosom unespied,
From a small boat that rowed along,
The listening winds received their song :

7. "What should we do but sing His praise
That led us through the watery maze
Unto an isle so long unknown,
And yet far kinder than our own !

8. "When He the huge sea-monster racks,
That lift the deep upon their backs ;
He lands us on a grassy stage,
Safe from the storms and prelates' rage.
9. "He gave us this eternal spring
Which here enamels everything,
And sends the fowls to us in care,
On daily visits through the air.
10. "He hangs in shades the orange bright,
Like golden lamps in a green night,
And does in the pomegranates close
Jewels more rich than Ormus shows.
11. "He makes the figs our mouths to meet,
And throws the melons at our feet,
But apples, plants of such a price,
No tree could ever bear them twice.
12. "With cedars, chosen by His hand,
From Lebanon He stores the land ;
And makes the hollow seas that roar,
Proclaim the ambergris on shore.
13. "He cast—of which we rather boast—
The Gospel's pearl upon our coast ;
And in these rocks for us did frame
A temple where to sound His name.
14. "O let our voice His praise exalt,
Till it arrive at Heaven's vault,

Which then perhaps rebounding may
Echo beyond the Mexic' Bay !”

15. Thus sang they in the English boat
A holy and a cheerful note,
And all the way to guide their chime
With falling oars they kept the time.

9. *Enamels*. Makes bright, as if coloured with enamel.
10. *Pomegranate*. A beautiful tropical fruit.
Ormus. In the Persian Gulf. Supposed to be a land
rich in precious stones.
12. *Ambergris*. A fragrant substance found in tropical
climates.
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CHARLES THE SECOND

1660-1685

28.—After the Restoration

1. It was soon found that implicit faith could not be put in the promises of the new King. A general amnesty had been proclaimed, yet the Parliament approved, and the King agreed to the punishment of the regicides. Twenty-nine were tried and condemned, but only ten were actually put to death. Vengeance was wreaked upon the dead bodies of Cromwell, his son-in-law Ireton, and Bradshaw, for they were taken from their graves and hung on gibbets at Tyburn.

2. Early in 1661 a new Parliament was called, and was composed principally of Royalists. During



CHARLES II.

the Commonwealth the Church had been greatly disorganised. The bishops had been driven from their

sees, and the ministers were partly Episcopalian and partly Presbyterian. Its services also were of various kinds, so that the first energies of the Parliament had to be directed towards putting it in order. To this end several Acts were passed, but some of them became sources of great trouble to many of the people.

3. Charles had promised liberty of conscience to all his subjects, but he was not able to stop Parliament from passing the *Corporation Act*. This prevented any one holding office in boroughs who refused to take the oaths of allegiance and supremacy when accepting office, or who had not taken the Sacrament according to the rites of the Church of England. Its object was to strike a blow at the Presbyterians, who were very strong in many provincial towns, and who had a large share in returning members to Parliament.

4. Next came the *Act of Uniformity*, which required all ministers henceforth to use the new Book of Common Prayer. To this, large numbers would not comply, and nearly 2000 of them were deprived of their livings. These ministers then opened other places of worship, and another Act called the *Conventicle Act* was passed, making it criminal to attend any but the services of the Church of England. Afterwards, when during the plague some of the ministers preached in the churches of the towns, another Act called the *Five Mile Act* was passed, preventing any of them from keeping a school or from going near a town, on pain of heavy fines and long imprisonment.

5. Among the thousands who were put in prison was John Bunyan, a Bedfordshire tinker, who had been a great blasphemer, but had given up his evil ways, and was now accustomed to preach the gospel.

He lay in Bedford Gaol for twelve years, during which time he became blind. While confined there he wrote his book called the *Pilgrim's Progress*.

6. The Acts mentioned above were generally known as the Clarendon Code, because they were supported by the Earl of Clarendon, who at this time was acting as Charles's minister. He had been a member of the Long Parliament, and throughout its duration was on the side of the King. Charles II. made him Chancellor at the Restoration, and for the first seven years of the reign he governed England conscientiously, if somewhat strictly.

7. It was not, however, his action in ecclesiastical matters that led to Clarendon's downfall, but the course of events which resulted from the conduct of foreign affairs. There was great ill-feeling between England and Holland. Charles thought the Dutch had treated him badly when he was a wanderer and exile; while the Dutch were jealous of the increased influence which England had gained in India, by reason of the King's marriage with a Portuguese princess, who brought Bombay as her wedding portion.

8. England was also winning advantages over the Dutch in America, and at last war broke out between the two countries in 1665. The King had to ask for a large sum of money to carry on this war; but the people had every reason to suspect that the supplies were used to pay for the King's own private affairs. Thus when, two years later, Clarendon applied to the Commons for fresh supplies to fit out the fleet, they insisted on appointing a committee to examine the accounts; but as the Government would not face this committee, peace was suddenly declared,

and the war was brought to a close. Before anything definite, however, was settled, the Dutch admiral De Ruyter sailed up the Medway with sixty vessels, burnt three men-of-war at Chatham, and blockaded the Thames. The people were mad with rage at this insult; and as soon as peace was concluded, turned with fury upon Clarendon, who fled to France, and there died some years afterwards.

1. *Amnesty.* A general pardon for offences against Government.
Wrecked. Worked, or executed.

29.—John Bunyan

1. Lord Macaulay, one of England's most famous historians, says: "Though there were many clever men in England during the seventeenth century, there were only two minds which possessed the imaginative faculty in a very eminent degree. One of those minds produced *Paradise Lost*, and the other the *Pilgrim's Progress*."

2. The author of the *Pilgrim's Progress* was John Bunyan, who was born at Elstow in Bedfordshire in 1628. Born at a time when excesses of every kind were common, he led a life of great profligacy. In one of his books he tells us that he never opened his lips without an oath, and his wickedness was so great that he became a terror to the people in the place where he resided. He followed the occupation of a tinker, and joined in all the sports and pastimes common to those days. Once when indulging in profanity, a good woman admonished him for using profane language. This had such an effect upon him that he became a changed man.

3. At the age of eighteen he was found in the Parliamentary army, and in 1655 he joined a Baptist Society at Bedford. The same qualities of mind and disposition which had made him a ringleader in evil, now urged him forward to become a leader and instructor of others in good things. He began to preach, going into the villages round about Bedford for the purpose.

4. But the laws against Dissenters, forbidding them to hold conventicles or to deliver sermons, silenced him, and his enemies were glad when he was thrown into prison. For twelve and a half years he was confined in Bedford Gaol, where he suffered great privation. His little girl helped to secure the bare necessaries of life for himself and family, by the sale of the boot laces which he occupied his time in making.

5. It was while he was thus confined that he wrote the *Pilgrim's Progress*. It was only one out of a great number of works upon religious subjects which he wrote. In the form of an allegory he gives to spiritual truths the appearance of real life. The first part of the *Pilgrim's Progress* is the journey of Christian, the pilgrim, from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City. The second part records a similar journey taken by Christiana, his wife, and her children. In the story, Bunyan has made the various events so real that the reader forgets he is describing mental conditions, and is fain to believe that everything related must have occurred. The book is eagerly read by old and young, and perhaps it has gained a wider popularity and a more extended circulation than that of any other book in the world, the Bible alone excepted.

6. After his release from prison, Bunyan became the pastor of the Baptist congregation at Bedford. Here he was so popular that he was generally spoken of as "Bishop Bunyan." He exercised great influence over the people, and was the means of reconciling many who had quarrelled. It was while he was on a journey to reconcile an angry father and a rebellious son, that he caught the cold which ended in his death in the year 1698.

5. *Allegory.* A writing or painting which contains a hidden meaning.

30.—The Plague and the Fire

1. During the time of Clarendon's Government, and while the Dutch war was dragging slowly along, there happened two of the most famous things that have ever taken place in London. The first of these was the terrible Plague in 1665; and the next, the Great Fire of the following year.

2. The summer of 1665 was extraordinarily hot; and a plague had been raging on the continent for some long time past. It broke out in London in the month of May, and went on increasing rapidly, until in September, 1500 persons died in one day. This appalling spread was largely helped by the unsanitary conditions of the time.

3. The streets were narrow, the houses were crowded, and the upper stories overhung the lower ones in such a way as to exclude almost all air and light. The rooms in which people lived were often small and dingy, and the dirt and filth which collected there were almost beyond description.



STREET DURING THE GREAT PLAGUE.

4. Every house in which the disease was known to exist was marked on the door with a large red cross, and no one was allowed to enter or leave the house for a month. So fearful were the people of contagion that they refused to touch articles which had been in the hands of other people, until they had been carefully disinfected.

5. Every night a cart paraded the streets, and the driver, ringing his bell, called out to the people to bring out their dead. The bodies were placed without coffins or other covering in great pits dug for the purpose outside the city, and it is to be feared that many attacked by the disease were thrown into the pits alive.

6. To add to the misery and terror everywhere experienced, thieves plundered the houses of the living and the dead. Debauchery and sin were never so prevalent as then; while numbers, from fear or disease, went raving mad, and rendered night and day hideous with their howls. All business was stopped, and grass began to grow in the streets.

7. Great coal fires were lighted in the streets, and after the strong winds which set in had cooled the air, the plague was partially stayed. In London alone, upwards of 100,000 persons perished, while large numbers also died in the country.

8. Not till the following year, when the Great Fire occurred, did the ravages of the Plague completely cease. The fire began in a baker's shop in Pudding Lane, near the spot on which the Monument now stands. As the houses were almost all built of wood, and the season had been very dry, there was plenty of food for the flames. Aided by a strong

east wind, and by the fact of no water being obtainable to quench it, for three days the fire raged with tremendous fury. Thousands of houses were burning



PEST HOUSE, TOT HILL FIELDS.

at once; while the people, too panic-stricken to save their goods, went about wringing their hands in despair.

9. Two-thirds of London, covering nearly 450 acres, were in this way destroyed; while 200,000 persons were left homeless. The Royal Exchange, St. Paul's Cathedral, eighty-eight churches, and many other large public buildings, as well as 13,200 houses, were burnt to the ground. In all this great calamity only a few lives were lost.

10. The Fire was not without its good results. The plague spots were burnt out. An Act was passed which prohibited the building of timber houses in the future. The streets were made wider, the overhanging stories disappeared, and London became so much healthier that the plague never returned.

6. *Debauchery.* Excess in living.

31.—The Great Fire (1)

From the Diary of John Evelyn

1. 1666, *September 2nd.*—This fatal night about ten began that deplorable fire near Fish Street, London.

2. *3rd.*—The fire continuing, after dinner I took coach with my wife and son, and went to the Bank side in Southwark, where we beheld that dismal spectacle, the whole city in dreadful flames near the water side; all the houses from the bridge, all Thames Street, and upwards towards Cheapside, down to the "Three Cranes," were now consumed.

3. The fire having continued all this night—if I may call that night which was as light as day for ten miles round about in a dreadful manner—when conspiring with a fierce eastern wind in a very dry season, I went on foot to the same

place, and saw the whole south part of the city burning from Cheapside to the Thames, and all along Cornhill,—for it kindled back against the wind as well as forward,—Tower Street, Fenchurch Street, Gracious Street, and so along to Baynard's Castle, and was now taking hold of St. Paul's Church to which the scaffolds contributed exceedingly.

4. The conflagration was so universal, and the people so astonished, that from the beginning I know not by what despondency or fate they hardly stirred to quench it; so that there was nothing heard or seen but crying out and lamentation, running about like distracted creatures without at all attempting to save even their goods, such a strange consternation there was upon them. So as it burned both in breadth and length, the churches, public halls, hospitals, exchange, monuments, and ornaments, leaping after a prodigious manner from house to house and street to street at great distances one from the other, for the heat, with a long set of fair and warm weather, had even ignited the air, and prepared the materials to conceive the fire which devoured, after an incredible manner, houses, furniture, and everything. .

5. Here we saw the Thames covered with goods floating, all the barges and boats laden with what some had time and courage to save, as on the other the carts, etc., carrying out to the fields which for many miles were strewn with movables of all sorts and tents erecting to shelter both people and what goods they could get away. Oh, the miserable and calamitous spectacle! such as haply the world has not seen the like since the foundation of it, nor be outdone till the universal conflagration.

6. All the sky was of a fiery aspect like the top of a burning oven, the light seen above forty miles round about for many nights. God grant my eyes may never behold the like, now seeing above 10,000 houses all in one flame: the noise and cracking and thunder of the impetuous flames, the shrieking of the women and children, the hurry of people, the fall of towers, houses, and churches, was like a hideous storm, and the air all about so hot and enflamed that at last one was not able to approach it, so that they were forced to stand still and let the flames burn on; which they did for near two miles in length and one in breadth.

7. The clouds of smoke were dismal and reached upon computation near fifty miles in length. Thus I left it this afternoon burning—a resemblance of Sodom or of the last day! London *was*, but it is no more!

8. *4th.*—The burning still rages, and it was now gotten as far as the Inner Temple, all Fleet Street, the Old Bailey, Ludgate Hill, Warwick Lane, Newgate, Paul's Chain, Watling Street now flaring, and most of it reduced to ashes; the stones of St. Paul's flew like grenades, the melting lead running down the streets in a stream and the very pavements glowing with fiery redness, so as no horse nor man was able to tread on them, and the demolition had stopped all the passages, so that no help could be applied. The eastern wind still more impetuously drove the flames forward. Nothing but the Almighty power of God was able to stop them, for vain was the help of man!

8. *Grenadoes.* Grenades. Explosive shells formerly used in war.

32.—The Great Fire (2)

1. *5th.*—It crossed towards Whitehall: Oh, the confusion there was then at that court! It pleased his Majesty to command me among the rest to look after the quenching of Fetter Lane end, if possible to preserve that part of Holborn, while the rest of the gentlemen took their several posts—for they now began to bestir themselves and not till now—who hitherto had stood as men intoxicated with their hands across—and began to consider that nothing was likely to put a stop but the blowing up of so many houses as might make a wider gap than any had yet been made by the ordinary method of pulling them down with engines; this some stout seamen proposed early enough to have saved nearly the whole city, but some tenacious and avaricious men, aldermen, etc., would not permit because their houses must have been of the first. It was therefore now commanded to be practised, and my concern being particularly for the hospital of St. Bartholomew, near Smithfield, where I had many wounded and sick men, made me the more diligent to promote it, nor was my care for the Savoy less.

2. It now pleased God by abating the wind, and by the industry of the people infusing a new spirit into them, that the fury of it began sensibly to abate about noon, so as it came no further than the Temple westward, nor than the entrance of Smithfield north. .

3. But it continued all this day and night so impetuous towards Cripplegate and the Tower, as made us all despair; it also broke out again in the Temple, but the courage of the multitude persisting, and many

houses being blown up, such gaps and desolations were soon made, as with the former three days' consumption, the back fire did not so vehemently urge upon the rest as formerly.

4. There was yet no standing near the burning and glowing ruins by near a furlong's space. The coal and wood wharves and magazines of oil, rosin, etc., did infinite mischief so as the invective which a little before I had dedicated to his Majesty and published, giving warning what might probably be the issue of suffering those shops to be in the city, was looked on as a prophecy.

5. The poor inhabitants were dispersed about St. George's Fields, and Moorfields, as far as Highgate, and several miles in circle, some under tents, some under miserable huts and hovels, many without a rag or any necessary utensils, bed or board, who from delicateness, riches, and easy accommodation, in stately and well-furnished houses, were now reduced to extremest misery and poverty.

6. In this calamitous condition, I returned with a sad heart to my house, blessing and adoring the mercy of God to me and mine, who in the midst of all this ruin was like Lot, in my little Zoar, safe and sound.

7. *7th.*—I went this morning on foot from Whitehall as far as London Bridge, through the late Fleet Street, Ludgate Hill, by St. Paul's, Cheapside, Exchange, Bishopgate, Aldersgate, and out to Moorfields, thence through Cornhill, etc., with extraordinary difficulty, clambering over heaps of yet smoking rubbish, and frequently mistaking where I was.

8. The ground under my feet was so hot that it even burnt the soles of my shoes. In the meantime,

his Majesty got to the Tower by water, to demolish the houses about the graff, which being built entirely about it, had they taken fire and attacked the White Tower where the magazine of powder lay, would undoubtedly not only have beaten down and destroyed all the bridge, but sunk and torn the vessels in the river, and rendered the demolition beyond all expression for several miles about the country.

4. *So as.* So that.

Invective. A complaining or accusing speech; but here means a pamphlet or writing which Evelyn had published.

8. *Graff.* A moat, or ditch.

33.—The Great Fire (3)

1. At my return I was infinitely concerned to find that goodly church St. Paul's now a sad ruin, and that beautiful portico—for structure comparable to any in Europe, as not long before repaired by the King—now rent in pieces, flakes of vast stones split asunder and nothing remaining entire but the inscription in the architrave showing by whom it was built, which had not one letter of it defaced.

2. It was astonishing to see what immense stones the heat had in a manner calcined so that all the ornaments, columns, friezes, and projectures of massive Portland stone flew off even to the very roof where a sheet of lead covering a great space was totally melted; the ruins of the vaulted roof falling broke into St. Faith's, which being filled with the magazines of books belonging to the stationers and carried thither for safety, they were all consumed, burning for a week following.

3. It is also observable that the lead over the altar

at the east end was untouched, and among the divers monuments, the body of one bishop remained entire. Thus lay in ashes that most venerable church, one of



MONUMENT OF THE GREAT FIRE.

the most ancient pieces of early piety in the Christian world, besides near a hundred more. The lead, iron work, bells, plate, etc., melted; the exquisitely wrought Mercer's chapel, the sumptuous Exchange, the august

fabric of Christ Church, all the best of the Companies' Halls, sumptuous buildings, arches all in dust, the fountains dried up and ruined, whilst the very waters remained boiling, the subterranean cellars, wells and dungeons, formerly warehouses, still burning in stench and dark clouds of smoke, so that in five or six miles in traversing about I did not see one load of timber unconsumed, nor many stones but what were calcined white as snow.

4. The people who now walked about the ruins appeared like men in a dismal desert, or rather in some great city laid waste by a cruel enemy ; to which was added the stench that came from some poor creatures' bodies, beds, etc. Sir Thomas Gresham's statue, though fallen from its niche in the Royal Exchange, remained entire when all those of the kings since the Conquest were broken to pieces ; also the standard in Cornhill, and Queen Elizabeth's effigies with some arms on Ludgate continued with but little detriment, whilst the vast iron chains of the city streets, hinges, bars, and gates of prisons were many of them melted and reduced to cinders by the vehement heat.

5. I was not able to pass through any of the narrow streets but kept the widest ; the ground and air smoke and fiery vapour continued so intense that my hair was almost singed and my feet unsufferably sur-heated. The bye lanes and narrower streets were quite filled up with rubbish, nor could one have known where he was, but by the ruins of some church or hall that had some remarkable tower or pinnacle remaining. I then went toward Islington and Highgate, where one might have seen 200,000 people of all ranks and degrees dispersed and lying along by their heaps of what they could

save from the fire, deploring their loss, and though ready to perish for hunger and destitution, yet not asking one penny for relief, which to me appeared a stranger sight than any I had yet beheld.

6. His Majesty and Council indeed, took all imaginable care for their relief by proclamation for the country to come in and refresh them with provisions. In the midst of all this calamity and confusion, here was, I know not how, an alarm begun that the French and Dutch with whom we were now in hostility were not only landed but even entering the city. There was in truth some days before great suspicion of these two nations joining, and now that they had been the occasion of firing the town. This report did so terrify that on a sudden there was such an uproar and tumult that they ran from their goods, and, taking what weapons they could come at, they could not be stopped from falling on some people of those nations whom they casually met, without sense or reason.

7. The clamour and peril grew so excessive that it made the whole Court amazed, and they did with infinite pains and great difficulty reduce and appease the people, sending troops of soldiers and guards, to cause them to retire into the fields again where they were watched all this night. I left them pretty quiet, and came home sufficiently weary and broken. Their spirits thus a little calmed, and the affright abated, they now began to repair into the suburbs about the city where such as had friends or opportunity got shelter for the present.

1. *Architrave.* The stone-work which lies immediately above a column.

2. *Calcined.* Reduced to powder.

2. *Friezes.* A broad stone immediately above the architrave.
4. *Effigies.* Images or statues.
Detriment. Harm or damage.
5. *Sur-heated.* Over-heated.

34.—The Beginnings of the Cabinet

1. When Clarendon had gone, the strong Royalist party that existed in Charles's first Parliament was broken up, and the chief power fell into the hands of five men—members of the Privy Council who were especial friends of the King. Their names were Clifford, Arlington, Buckingham, Ashley, and Lauderdale; and, curiously enough, the first letters of their names made up the word Cabal.

2. This word comes from the Hebrew language, and means originally a secret; and it seemed a strange coincidence that it could be spelt from the initials of those men who were ready to help Charles in all his private arrangements and diplomacy. For Charles was trying in every way he could to get away from the restraint of Parliament and of his advisers; but he had greater tact than his father, and would neither oppose them openly, nor go too far.

3. He therefore made much more use of his five friends than he did of all the rest of the Councillors or of the House of Commons; and so the custom gradually grew that the King should be helped by a few specially chosen people, and that the Government of the country should fall entirely into their hands. This system is known at the present day as the Cabinet system; and it is worth while noticing that it did not come about by any statute or Act of Parlia-

ment, but merely began as a matter of convenience, and has been continued by custom down to our own times.

4. One of the first things that Charles did was to make a secret treaty with Louis XIV. of France, the King whose power had been so much increased by the foreign policy of Cromwell. Louis was very anxious to conquer the Netherlands, which at this time belonged to Spain; and he paid Charles a large sum of money not to interfere with his project, and also promised to send over French troops to help him, if he had any trouble with his subjects.

5. Charles then persuaded Parliament to advance some money for the fleet; and shortly after, when his brother, the Duke of York, openly declared himself a Roman Catholic, he published a Declaration of Indulgence, which suspended all laws against both Roman Catholics and Nonconformists. When, however, his supply of money was exhausted, Charles was obliged to call Parliament together once more, for since the last grant it had been prorogued; but they insisted upon the withdrawal of the Declaration, and passed a Test Act, which made all those who held office declare that they did not believe the doctrines of the Church of Rome.

6. This compelled the Duke of York to give up his post of Lord High Admiral, and also forced Clifford and Arlington, who were both Roman Catholics, to retire from the Cabal. Ashley, who had been made Lord Shaftesbury, quarrelled with the King, and as a consequence the Cabal broke up.

7. Shaftesbury then did everything he could to oppose the King, and became the leader of a party in

Parliament. So, just as the Cabal was the origin of the Cabinet system, Shaftesbury's private grievances against Charles were the beginning of the division between Ministers and Opposition which we have to this day.

8. Charles chose next, as his minister, Sir Thomas Osborne, Earl of Danby, a man whom the Commons liked; and allowed him to arrange a marriage between Mary, the Duke of York's daughter, and William, the Prince of Orange. This marriage was very popular in England, for both William and Mary were Protestants; and as Charles had no children and the Duke of York no son, Mary was the ultimate heir to the throne.

9. But Charles all this time was still receiving money from Louis XIV. as a price for not interfering with the ambitious plans of France; and at last the whole secret came out, and there was a great disturbance in Parliament about it. An enemy of Danby, who had been English ambassador at Paris, showed to the House of Commons a despatch signed by Danby, and authorised in the King's own handwriting, in which the terms of the French pension money were arranged. Danby was impeached for treason; and Charles, to avoid further discoveries, dissolved the Parliament, which by that time had been sitting for seventeen and a half years.

2. *Coincidence.* A happening together.

35.—The Quarrels over the Exclusion Bill

1. Next came a couple of short Parliaments, the first of which brought in a bill called the Exclusion

Bill, the object of which was to exclude the Duke of York for ever from the throne, because he was a Roman Catholic. The result of bringing in this Bill was that the Parliament was dissolved after sitting only five months.

2. The Bill was reintroduced in the next Parliament, and passed the Commons, but was rejected in the Lords through the influence of Lord Halifax, a prudent nobleman, who wished to prevent either party from going to extremes. Shaftesbury began to plan for securing the succession to the throne for the Duke of Monmouth, who was a natural son of the King; but Halifax saw that this would never be advisable, and that Mary, the daughter of the Duke of York, ought to be fully recognised as the rightful heir.

3. Then two parties arose—those led by Shaftesbury, who petitioned the King to agree to the Exclusion Bill, and so were called the Petitioners; and those led by Monmouth, who abhorred the Bill, and were called the Abhorrrers. These parties gave each other nicknames—the Shaftesbury factions being called Whigs, a name which had been first applied to Scotch rebels; and the Duke of York's friends, Tories, from a name given to Roman Catholic outlaws in Ireland.

4. When Charles's fifth and last Parliament met in 1681, the Whigs made a fatal mistake. They thought there was really a conspiracy to bring ~~the~~ the Roman Catholics back again; and they appeared with armed followers in attendance. The nation at once feared there would be another Civil War, and they had no wish to see the terrors of a military despotism revived in England. So the proposals of the King

were quickly agreed to ; his Parliament was dissolved at the end of a week, and Charles's triumph was complete.

5. Shaftesbury was accused of high treason for plotting with Monmouth, and had to flee to Holland, where he died in the following year. Monmouth, however, formed a conspiracy with several of his friends, among whom were Lord William Russell, the Earl of Essex, Algernon Sidney, and Lord Howard. It is not definitely known whether they meant to attempt a general rising or not ; but certain desperate men concocted a plot called the Rye House Plot, the object of which was the assassination of both the King and the Duke of York as they were returning from the races at Newmarket.

6. The secret of the plot, however, was betrayed ; and though it is a question whether the Whig leaders actually were implicated, many of them were arrested and executed, but Monmouth and others fled to Holland. The trials of the prisoners caused great interest, especially those of Lord William Russell and Algernon Sidney. Both were found guilty upon evidence which would not nowadays be considered at all conclusive, and were respectively executed on Tower Hill in July and December 1683.

7. Two years afterwards Charles II. died, professing himself a Roman Catholic, although all his life he had called himself a Protestant. He had lived a profligate life, and during his reign the morals of the people sadly degenerated. Lying, swearing, duelling, and gaming were common, and the example set by the Court was imitated by almost all classes of the people.

2. *Natural son.* One whose mother is not the lawful wife of the father.

3. So easy still it proves, in factious times,
 With public zeal to cancel private crimes ; 30
 How safe is treason, and how sacred ill,
 When none can sin against the people's will !
 Where crowds can wink, and no offence be known,
 Since in another's guilt they find their own !
4. Yet fame deserved, no enemy can grudge ; 35
 The statesman we abhor, but praise the judge.
 In Israel's courts ne'er sat an Abbethdin
 With more discerning eyes, or hands more clean,
 Unbribed, unsought, the wretched to redress,
 Swift of despatch, and easy of access. 40
 Oh, had he been content to serve the crown
 With virtues only proper for the gown ;
 Or had the rankness of the soil been freed
 From cockle, that oppressed the noble seed ;
 David for him his tuneful harp had strung, 45
 And heaven had wanted one immortal song.
5. But wild ambition loves to slide, not stand ;
 And fortune's ice prefers to virtue's land,
 Achitophel, grown weary to possess
 A lawful fame, and lazy happiness, 50
 Disdained the golden fruit to gather free
 And lent the crowd his arm to shake the tree.

DRYDEN.

1. *Achitophel*. This extract is taken from a political satire by Dryden, a poet of the Restoration, the full name of which is *Absalom and Achitophel*. The poem was written to mock the Popish Plot and the Exclusion Bill ; and in it Absalom represents the Duke of Monmouth, Charles II.'s son ; while Achitophel is the name given to Shaftesbury.

- 9. *Tenement.* A dwelling-place.
- 24. *The triple band.* The triple alliance of England, Holland, and Sweden against France.
- 26. *Israel.* In this satire, means England.
- 37. *Abbethdin.* The president of the Jewish legislature ; Shaftesbury was President of the Council.

37.—The Habeas Corpus Act, and the Character of Charles II.

1. The reign of Charles II. is conspicuous for much bad legislation ; but it is remarkable also for the passing of a statute upon which depends most of the freedom we now enjoy. This statute is known as the *Habrus Corpus Act*.

2. *Magna Charta* had declared the right of every freeman to a free and fair trial by his peers, and that to no one should justice be denied, sold, or delayed. But the promise thus given in the Great Charter was often broken, and men and women had been repeatedly taken to prison and kept there without just cause, sometimes for months, and even for years, without being brought to trial at all. Much injustice and great wrong and suffering had thus been caused to innocent persons by this illegal detention. Complaints were numerous but of no avail, and it was not till 1679 that an effective means of preventing unlawful imprisonment was secured.

3. From a remote period there had existed a writ of Habeas Corpus as a means of preventing illegal imprisonment, but, as has been already said, it was frequently evaded, and especially so in the reign of

Charles I. This writ commanded the person to whom it was sent to bring up the body of the person named in the order for trial, so that he might be at once found guilty or innocent, and kept in prison or released according to the verdict of the jury. The words "Habeas Corpus" are the first words of the order, and mean "You may have the body."

4. But although the means of obtaining a Writ of Habeas Corpus were in existence, the judges had assumed the right of refusing one when they pleased; the jailers also often refused to comply with the writ; and the Privy Council had often sent persons who were obnoxious to them beyond the seas so as to be out of the jurisdiction of the Courts. Further securities were therefore needed for the protection of the subjects; and these were given by the famous Habeas Corpus Act of this reign.

5. The Act provides that an application may be made on behalf of any prisoner for a writ; that the judge shall grant it under pain of a heavy fine; that jailers shall deliver up the prisoner to be brought before the judge also under heavy penalties; that the prisoner shall then be tried, and that he shall not be recommitted for the same offence under a penalty of £500. It also provides that no inhabitant of England shall be transported before trial beyond the seas.

6. The character of Charles II. is a very difficult one to sum up. There is, however, no doubt that he was a man of exceptional ability, with a great capacity for ruling. He came to the throne at a particularly critical time, when the nation had made a trial of violent remedies for their grievances; and

when dissatisfaction for these remedies had induced them to turn to the other extreme. His greatest fault was an extreme personal selfishness, which coloured all his acts, either private or political.

7. But at a time when the hereditary principle of government was exposed to serious attack, he played his part, in a dangerous position, with much dexterity; and knew by instinct when it was safe for him to be inflexible, and when it was judicious to yield. It is interesting to compare him with his brother and successor; a man far his superior in moral character and in earnestness of purpose, but equally his inferior in skill and in the management of men. Charles's great natural wit stood him often in good stead; and enabled him to express political truths in the form of a jest. When one of his courtiers and familiar friends proposed that his epitaph might run

Here lies ~~our~~ Sovereign Lord the King,
Whose word no man relies on;
~~Who~~ never said a foolish thing,
And never did a wise one,

Charles saw his opportunity at once, and availed himself of it. "Quite true," he retorted, "for *my* words are my own; but my deeds are *my* ministers'."

4. *Obnoxious*. Hateful to.

7. *Dexterity*. Skill; cleverness.

Epitaph. An inscription upon a tomb.

JAMES THE SECOND

1685-1688

38.—Monmouth's Rebellion, 1685

1. The reign of James II. lasted only for three years, but it marked an epoch in the history of the country, inasmuch as with it ended the strife against absolute monarchy in England. All the attempts which had been made to prevent James from ascending the throne were unsuccessful, and he succeeded to the Crown without opposition immediately upon his brother's death.

2. James at once met the Council, and in addressing the members said: "I shall make it my endeavour to preserve the Government, both in church and state, as by law established. I know the principles of the Church of England are for monarchy, and the members of it have shown themselves good and loyal subjects; therefore I shall always take care to defend and support it. I know too that the laws of England are sufficient to make the King as great a monarch as I can wish; and as I shall never depart from the just rights and prerogatives of the Crown, so I shall never invade any man's property."

3. Here was a distinct promise to rule according to the law, and to maintain the institutions of the country. When the speech was circulated among the people the fears they had entertained subsided, and the clergy and other public bodies at once sent in loyal and dutiful addresses to the King.

4. Notwithstanding these promises, James's first public act was to levy, upon his own authority, the customs duties which had expired upon the death of the late King. The money resulting from these customs had been for a long time past granted by Parliament to each sovereign as he came to the throne ; but of course, when the sovereign expired, the grant expired too, and the new King was expected to wait until Parliament met and agreed that he also might enjoy them. But James, on his own responsibility, demanded that they should be collected and paid over to him, and this was clearly unconstitutional.

5. James, moreover, had really made up his mind to restore the Roman Catholic religion throughout the country, and if he could not do it in any other way, he intended to accomplish it by the help of foreign power. For this purpose he entered into negotiations with France, and Louis made him a grant of £60,000. The English Parliament took alarm, and passed resolutions affirming their loyalty to the Church of England, and requesting James to put in force the penal laws against all Dissenters from the doctrines and ordinances of that Church.

6. The arbitrary government of the last reign had driven many persons into exile, and the Protestants in England looked hopefully to these persons to aid them in the overthrow of the Catholic religion. Two expeditions were set on foot for this purpose. One was led by the Duke of Argyle into Scotland, but after a little time proved completely futile, the leaders in it being taken prisoners and put to death.

7. Another was led by the Duke of Monmouth, in whose behalf the Rye House Plot had been set on

foot. Monmouth landed at Lyme, in Dorset, in June with a force which did not number a hundred men. The common people were greatly in his favour, and he soon found himself at the head of above 3000 men, although among them were no people of note. After a time he led his forces to Taunton.

8. This town contained many Nonconformists, and Monmouth's reception was of the most favourable kind. Here he proclaimed himself king, called his opponents traitors, and offered a reward for the arrest of James. The number of his forces continued to increase till they reached upwards of 6000. With these he attempted to subdue the whole of the West of England. He tried to secure Bristol, but was unsuccessful, and his further progress was stopped by the approach in several directions of the royal forces. To save himself and his army, Monmouth then began to retreat upon the town of Bridgewater.

1. *Epoch.* Period; age.

6. *Futile.* Useless.

39.—The Battle of Sedgemoor

1. As soon as Monmouth's army reached Bridgewater, the royal forces encamped on Sedgemoor, a few miles from the town. It was Monmouth's intention to surprise them in a night attack, and for this purpose he marched his ill-disciplined and badly-armed troops out of the town on a Sunday night in July 1685.

2. Monmouth's cavalry led the way, and for a time everything went well. Through a mistake, how-

ever, of the guide, delay was caused in crossing the moor, and the accidental discharge of a pistol betrayed their presence to the forces of the King. A short and severe encounter served to drive Monmouth's cavalry from the field, and when his foot-soldiers came to the scene of the fight they found themselves almost immediately surrounded by the King's troops. Unused as they were to war, they stood their ground bravely, and for a time the royal forces found it impossible to break the line of Monmouth's pikemen and musketeers.

3. During the confusion resulting from the flight of the cavalry, the ammunition-carts of the rebel forces were driven from the field, and in the end the men had to turn their muskets into clubs for the purpose of continuing the battle. Meanwhile, the guns of the King's army reached the scene of action, and their discharge broke up the ranks in a manner which all the previous efforts of horse and foot had failed to do. Monmouth and as many of his followers as could fled from the field.

4. Of the royal army about three hundred were killed, but the number of slain among the rebels amounted to a thousand. In addition many hundreds were taken prisoners. The King's commander, Faversham, hunted down the fugitives. Colonel Kirke, one of his officers, with his soldiers, known as the "Lambs," is said to have executed above a hundred people without any trial.

5. On the 8th of July Monmouth was taken prisoner. Some soldiers found him lying, pale and frightened, in a ditch. He at once sent a pitiful letter to the King, saying that he had been led astray by others, but that now he was truly penitent. He

begged permission to see the King, which was granted, but James refused to pardon him, and he was executed on Tower Hill a few days afterwards.

6. The King's anger was not appeased by the death of Monmouth and of those who had fallen on the field of battle. A special commission of five judges, with Chief Justice Jeffreys at their head, was sent to try persons who were said to have favoured the rebellion.

7. The assize began at Winchester. Here an aged woman named Alice Lisle was accused of giving food and shelter to two fugitives from Monmouth's army. She was found guilty, and was sentenced to be burned alive the same afternoon. Great was the horror at such a terrible sentence, which, however, owing to the intercession of the cathedral clergy, was not carried out, beheading being substituted.

8. In this way the judges proceeded through the whole of the towns of the district, trying persons according to the forms of law, but often acting with indecent haste, and not seldom perverting justice. The general result of this, known as "The Bloody Assize," was that upwards of three hundred suffered death, more than a thousand were sent as slaves to the American plantations, large numbers were publicly whipped and imprisoned, and others were ruined by heavy fines. To strike terror into the hearts of the people, the dead bodies of the executed victims were exposed in the streets, the highways, and on the public buildings.

7. *Intercession.* A pleading for.

40.—The Case of Sir Edward Hales

1. As soon as the rebellions of Argyle and Monmouth were put down, James set himself to the work he fully intended accomplishing, namely, the re-establishment of the Catholic religion in the whole realm. There were three great stumbling-blocks in his way, and before he could effect his purpose these had to be removed. He wanted the powers of inflicting arbitrary imprisonment, and of being able to coerce his subjects; and he needed persons willing and able to do his bidding. The Habeas Corpus Act prevented the former, while the absence of a standing army and the existence of the Test Act hindered the other two.

2. To surmount the latter difficulty, James devised a very ingenious plan. He had asked Parliament to repeal the Test Act, which they refused to do, and were in consequence dismissed. He then appointed a Roman Catholic gentleman, Sir Edward Hales, to be Governor of Dover Castle and colonel of a certain regiment. Sir Edward accepted these appointments, and, by arrangement, did *not* comply with the conditions of the Test Act. Then the King caused an action to be brought against Sir Edward in a court of law; and made Sir Edward, when he was put upon his trial, plead in defence that it was not necessary for him to obey the Test Act, because he had got special permission from the King that he need not do so.

3. James had instructed the judges beforehand what verdict they were to give; and consequently they declared they would accept Sir Edward's defence; which was equivalent to saying that the King had

power to suspend or to dispense with any law of the land whenever he liked. Making use of this decision, he appointed a great many Roman Catholics to different posts both in Church and State, and set up an Ecclesiastical Commission of seven members, the chief of whom was Judge Jeffreys, into whose hands he put the control of everything connected with the Church.

4. He next started a great camp at Hounslow, near London, and assembled 13,000 troops there, ready to march against such people as opposed his plans. A declaration of liberty of conscience and freedom from the penal statutes against Roman Catholics and Dissenters was next published throughout the country.

5. James also engaged in a conflict with the Universities. At Cambridge the Vice-Chancellor was deprived of his office for refusing to grant a degree to a monk without taking the usual oaths. At Oxford the fellows of Magdalen College refused to accept a president of the King's choosing. The person whom they chose was then declared by the King an intruder, and a Roman Catholic bishop was put in his place. In this way James "betrayed the hollowness of his pretensions to good faith and sincerity, and earned for himself the enmity of the great body of the clergy."

6. A second Declaration of Indulgence was published in 1688. This was ordered to be read in all the churches. A meeting of prelates and other clergy was held before the time fixed for the reading, and a petition was drawn up and signed by the Archbishop and six other bishops declaring their inability to read—or allow to be read—an illegal document. They considered it to be such; because they said the King had no power by himself to annul statutes which had

been enacted by Parliament. But in this, as in the other matters, James relied upon the decision given in his favour in the case of Hales.

7. The bishops carried their petition to the King, who received it with great anger and commanded their obedience. In only four of the London churches was the Declaration read, and in the provinces in one out of fifty. The bishops who had signed the petition were accordingly summoned before the Council, and were committed to the Tower. On their way to imprisonment they were cheered by the sympathy of the whole population of London. In prison they were visited by many of the nobility; and even the Nonconformist ministers, who would have obtained some concessions from the Indulgence, encouraged them in their conduct.

8. While they were in prison the intelligence was spread abroad that a son had been born to the King. This was at first disbelieved, and when credence was given to it, it only served to make the people more fearful lest a successor should thus be found for James, who would carry out his wishes for the destruction of Protestantism.

9. The bishops were tried for publishing the petition, which was described by the prosecution as a false, malicious, and seditious libel. The jury, after considering their verdict a whole night, declared the bishops to be "not guilty"; and the excitement of the people was intense. Bonfires were lit in the streets, the houses were illuminated, and the bells were rung for joy. Even the soldiers, upon whom James relied for help, could not refrain from joining in the general chorus of congratulation. When James saw the behaviour of the people, his anger knew no bounds,

and he determined to appeal to the force of arms to bring his subjects into submission. He therefore left Hounslow in haste, and sent to Ireland for Roman Catholic soldiers to support his cause.

1. *Stumbling-block.* An occasion of offence.

6. *Annul.* Do away with.

41.—The Bill of Rights

1. In 1687, William of Orange had promised to interfere if the Parliament consented to the repeal of the Test Act. When, therefore, a son was born to James, and the bishops had been put upon their trial, the chief of the nobility urged him to come with an armed force, and promised that he should be joined by the people and by a part of the army.

2. William consented ; but his preparations passed unheeded by James. On their completion, however, he issued a declaration to the English people as to his intentions, and James immediately took the alarm. He called together the bishops to ask their advice. They at once recommended the redress of wrongs and the assembling of a free Parliament.

3. As if to urge on the King, riots broke out in London, and many Roman Catholic places of worship were destroyed. Immediately after, the Ecclesiastical Commission was dissolved, the fellows of Magdalen College were reinstated, the Roman Catholic members of the Privy Council were dismissed, and the privileges of the various municipalities were restored.

4. Meanwhile, William's fleet of sixty ships of war and many transports, carrying nearly 16,000 cavalry

and infantry, was making its way to England. William landed at Torbay in November, and it was not long before all England declared in his favour. One after another James's friends deserted him; and when his second daughter, the Princess Anne, joined the rebels, James pathetically exclaimed, "God help me, even my own children have forsaken me."

5. James now appointed commissioners to meet William, with a promise that all matters in dispute should be determined by a free Parliament. In the meantime he provided for the safety of his wife and son by sending them to France. He essayed to follow, but was detained at Faversham, after he had flung the Great Seal into the Thames. On his return to London, his fears for his personal safety were increased, and a short time afterwards he managed to escape to St. Germain in France, where he died twelve years later.

6. The space of time between the day of James's leaving London and the day of the acceptance of the Crown by William and Mary is styled "The Interregnum." William reached London on the 19th of December, and immediately afterwards a Convention was called which declared that James had forfeited the crown, and it was offered to William and Mary. It also settled the succession in case of the death of the King or Queen.

7. A document was drawn up stating the grievances under which the country had suffered during the late King's reign, and setting out clearly what were the rights and liberties of the nation. This was called the *Declaration of Rights*. As soon as this document was ready, the Convention offered the throne to

William and Mary upon certain terms which were made clearly understood. William and his wife accepted these terms; and when once there was a king upon the throne again, the Convention became a Parliament, and the Declaration of Rights was re-issued as the Bill of Rights.

8. As the Bill is the third and last of the famous documents which describe our constitution, it is just as well to try to know something about it. It carefully pronounced certain things as being illegal for a king to do; and these things, we shall see, were just those which James had attempted, thinking he had made himself safe by Hales's famous case. The Bill declared that the exercise of the dispensing and suspending power was illegal, except with the consent of Parliament. This referred to Hales's appointment, to the troubles at Oxford and Cambridge, to the issue of the Declaration of Indulgence, and to many other things which happened throughout James's reign.

9. It then laid down that the Court of Ecclesiastical Commission was illegal, by which declaration the Church of England was made free once more, and it said there ought not to be any interference with people who wanted to present petitions to the King. Reference was made here, of course, to the case of the Seven Bishops and to their unjust trial. The Bill also said that a standing army ought not to be raised or maintained without the consent of Parliament; and, going back to the first thing of all that James had done when he came to the throne, added that no king ought to levy money unless Parliament gave him leave.

10. By agreeing to all these declarations, William

and Mary admitted that the things done by James were wrong, and undertook on their own part not to attempt them themselves. More than that, the Bill has been binding upon every one who has succeeded to the throne since their day, and it is binding still because it has never been repealed. Another part of the Bill said that no Román Catholic could sit upon the throne, and so it not only provides the limits within which our sovereigns shall have power, but it decides what their religion shall be as well.

6. *Interregnum.* The period when a kingdom is without a king.

42.—Some Effects of the Revolution

1. The Revolution made Parliament the supreme power in the State. A sovereign whose position depended upon a vote of Parliament could not enjoy the privileges of one whose right was supposed by many of his subjects to be of divine origin. It became necessary; therefore, to consult the will of the Parliament more frequently than had hitherto been the case. The kings had previously raised a large part of their own revenue, or a certain amount had been granted them at the beginning of the reign and settled once for all. In the disposal of it, the sovereign had acted as he thought fit. Under the new order of things the Parliament kept the control of the money largely in its own hands, and the maintenance of the army especially was thus retained.

2. Another of the benefits accruing to the people from the Revolution was the extension of légal tolera-

tion to Nonconformists, and the establishment of Presbyterianism in Scotland. But the fears of the people had been too much roused by late events to permit the Parliament to extend this toleration to every kind of religion, so that Roman Catholics and Socinians were excluded from the advantages obtained by others of the dissenters.

3. One of the most important of the reforms brought about by the Revolution was the securing of the independence of the judges. James had used the power he had of dispensing with their services, to overawe them into giving judgment in his favour on various occasions. One glaring instance was when he dismissed four of the judges because they would not declare that the power of dispensing with the laws rested with the Crown. Steps were taken, therefore, in the arrangements for the succession to the throne that the judges should have fixed salaries, and that they should not in future be liable to dismissal at the will of the sovereign.

4. Up to this time all kinds of publications had to be licensed before they could be issued; but the Revolution paved the way for the introduction of a Free Press into the country, and as a first step the necessity for licensing was done away with. It is true that the press was not then very extensive; but it was important that it should have the power of freely criticising the government, whether that government was controlled by Parliament or by the King alone.

5. The Revolution had the effect of changing the government of the country from a purely monarchical form, to one in which more of the people joined in

exercising the power. It did not by any means place it in the hands of the entire body of the people, and was therefore in no sense democratic. The right to vote was in the hands of only a few. The members of Parliament were often the nominees of a single patron. The seats were unequally distributed; in some places a handful of people returning a member, while large towns were without a representative at all. The proceedings of Parliament were conducted in private, and the electors had no means of knowing whether their member kept or broke his election pledges. The change, however, was one which at least distributed political power in some measure; and the partial freedom of the pulpit and the press helped to influence public opinion.

6. The social and moral condition of the people was improved by the Revolution. The reign of Charles the Second especially had been a season of debauchery and wickedness. The rise of Nonconformity, the release of the clergy of the Church of England from some part of their dependence, and the widening of the basis of political power, all helped more or less to clear the way for the moral and social revolution which had its commencement in the following century.

2. *Socinians.* The followers of two men named Socinus, who lived in the sixteenth century, and who denied the divinity of Christ.

4. *Paved the way.* Made possible.

5. *Nominee.* A person nominated or proposed by another.

Handful of people. A few people.

The pulpit and the press. The influence of sermons and newspapers.

WILLIAM AND MARY

1689-1694

WILLIAM III

1694-1702

43.—The Early Enactments of William's Reign

1. William found himself, on his accession, in a by no means easy position. As soon as the danger which menaced the country had passed away, the separate parties in the State who had combined to get rid of James broke out into antagonism against each other. The very people who had invited William to come to England, were the first to open negotiations with James in France to induce him to return. The clergy hesitated to acknowledge the authority of the King, because they had for so long a time preached the doctrine of passive obedience, and they feared that a change would lose them their influence over the people.

2. William's character and disposition, too, were not of a kind to secure the love and affection of his subjects. His demeanour was cold, and his bearing haughty. He evidently loved power, while his relationship to the late King caused some people to distrust him. Distrust created distrust, and William sought for help and counsel, not at the hands of his new subjects, but of the friends of his Dutch possessions.

3. When the Convention had declared itself a Parliament, it proceeded to adopt new oaths of

Allegiance and Supremacy. There were large numbers of persons holding office who were not prepared to take these new oaths; and being consequently deprived of their office, they came to be called Non-jurors. The Archbishop of Canterbury, several bishops, and about 400 clergymen were among them.

4. Another important piece of work done by this Parliament, was the passing of the Mutiny Act, which is curious as having a meaning and an effect widely different from its name. It originated from a mutiny made by one of the Scotch regiments against their officers; and increased the penalties which might be inflicted upon disobedient soldiers. It was enacted at first only for six months; and now is renewed every year, and the way in which it comes to have so much constitutional importance is as follows:—

5. One of the complaints against James II. was, as you have read, that he kept a standing army entirely upon his own responsibility. His soldiers, as it happened, were never employed in their own country against their fellow-countrymen; but the nation had a vivid remembrance of Cromwell's major-generals; and of the tyranny of the army before the Restoration. In the Bill of Rights, therefore, it was expressly laid down that no standing army could be maintained without the consent of Parliament.

6. The Mutiny Act not only regulates the discipline of the regiments, but it gives permission that an army should be kept up; limiting the time, however, to the space of a year. Now it is impossible for a great empire to exist unless it keeps an army prepared and ready for use in case of need. How, then, can the

difficulty be got over of having this permission available for not more than twelve months at a time?

7. Only by the bringing together of Parliament at least once in the course of each year, and by getting Parliament to renew the Act for twelve months more. So the passing of the Mutiny Act has been the means of obviating what used to be one of the gravest dangers to the State. It has made it absolutely impossible for a King to rule without a Parliament.

8. Another Bill passed by this First Parliament deserves to be mentioned, and that was the Toleration Act, which did away with the fines that, up till then, had been levied from those dissenters who would not attend the services of the Church of England. By it, consequently, the stringent regulations of the Act of Uniformity, the Five Mile Act, and the Conventicle Act were swept away. It was not, however, extended to Roman Catholics, and was therefore inconsistent; but it is another proof of the tendency which has grown in England during the last two centuries to let people think and practise what they please, so long as they do not do any harm to their fellows, or to the State.

1. *Passive.* Taking no part.

2. *Demeanour.* Manner; bearing.

3. *Allegiance.* A promise of faithfulness to a king.

Oath of Supremacy. An acknowledgment that a certain person is king.

Non-jurors. From the Latin, meaning persons who will not swear.

44.—The Siege of Londonderry, 1689

1. At this time there was a Parliament in Ireland as well as one in England, and nearly the whole of

the people, excluding the Protestants of the north, were in favour of James. All the English in Ireland who were Protestants looked to William as the natural protector of their lives and property. For the Lord Deputy of Ireland was a Catholic, and he had determined to do his utmost to keep Ireland for James. To this end he disarmed the Protestants, beginning in the south, and raised an army of 50,000 Irish, inflaming their minds against the Protestants, and declaring that he would recover the lands taken from them by Cromwell.

2. James got some help from the King of France, and landed in Ireland in March, 1689. All the people who had not fled to England for fear of the Irish had crowded into the north to the towns of Londonderry and Enniskillen. James called a Parliament in Dublin, and immediately afterwards set out for Londonderry, expecting that the town would capitulate on his summons to do so. But his demands were answered with a cannon ball and the defiant cry of "No surrender." He therefore returned to Dublin, and left the siege in the hands of one of the French generals who had accompanied him.

3. The siege of Londonderry was the most remarkable event of 1689 in Ireland. The city was surrounded by hills, and was built on sloping ground, and thus lay peculiarly open to the fire of the enemy. On the first alarm the inhabitants determined to defend their city, and immediately closed their gates. But their walls were low and in many places unprotected by a moat.

4. The first danger they had to encounter was the supineness and the treachery of the governor of the city, who not only refused the help from England, but

attempted to betray the city into the hands of the Irish. A Presbyterian minister, named George Walker, and Major Baker were, on the flight of the governor, made joint-governors of the city. The city was badly provisioned, and to the horrors of the siege were in a very short time added those of disease and famine. The investment of Londonderry was accomplished on the 20th of April, and the siege lasted for a hundred and five days.

5. When James withdrew to Dublin, the country was laid waste for miles round Londonderry; all chance of succour seemed hopeless to the people, who were reduced to eating horseflesh, dogs, and even the vermin of the drains; yet the heroic defenders still held out.

6. Londonderry stands on the banks of the river Foyle, across the narrowest part of which a boom made of fir trees firmly lashed together had been drawn, while the banks of the stream were lined with Irish soldiers and cannon, to prevent any relief reaching the city in that direction. Help had been sent from England, and thirty ships laden with provisions were lying in the Firth of Foyle. These were under the command of Colonel Kirke, but for several weeks he was too cowardly or too indifferent to the welfare of the city to attempt to reach the walls by forcing down the boom.

7. At length peremptory orders were given that the city must be relieved. Two of the ships laden with provisions, protected by a frigate, sailed up the river. One of them dashed against the boom, but failed to break through, and was driven back upon the banks. The next, officered by a native of the city, advanced into the breach which had been made, and

the defence gave way. Soon the famished inhabitants were being relieved. Barrels of meal, flour, potatoes, biscuits, and boxes of other provisions were landed in haste, and plenty took the place of famine. The Irish army, finding their blockade broken, left the scene, and a long line of smoking ruins which marked the place of their tents was the only trace of their presence on the following day.

- 4. *Supineness.* Carelessness ; inaction from want of interest.
- Investment.* Surrounding by troops.
- 7. *Peremptory.* Very positive.

45.—The Battle of the Boyne, 1690

1. The Protestants had taken refuge at Enniskillen as well as at Londonderry ; and, a day or two after the siege of the latter town had been raised, the men of Enniskillen totally routed the Irish, and drove them towards Dublin. Here James was at the mercy of the Parliament, who were urging a general massacre of the Protestants. The Protestant clergy were deprived of their livings, and their places were filled with Roman Catholics. A fierce persecution of the Protestants had begun before the Irish Parliament was prorogued in July 1689.

2. Then Marshal Schomberg, after repeated applications for help, was sent to Ireland to the assistance of William's friends. He took with him 16,000 men, but his troops were undisciplined, and he found it impossible to proceed farther south than Dundalk, where he wintered. Here he was joined by William himself in the following year. Placing himself at the head of the combined forces, numbering 36,000 men,

William met James at the river Boyne. James himself had 30,000 soldiers, among whom was a large contingent of French.

3. The two armies were each divided into three divisions, occupying the north and south banks of the river respectively. William's infantry was the first to cross the river, and succeeded in routing the infantry of the enemy, but his cavalry was kept in check by the French the whole of the morning. The crossing of William turned the tide of battle completely in his favour. Marshal Schomberg and the Rev. George Walker, who had been made Bishop of Kerry, were among the slain. James, seeing the defeat of his army, fled to Dublin, and again took refuge in France.

4. After the battle of the Boyne, William entered Dublin in triumph; and then, having taken Wexford, Waterford, and Clonmel, he followed the army to Limerick, which town he besieged. The loss of his cannon, however, and other circumstances compelled him to raise the siege, and for nearly nine months little was done to complete the reduction of the country.

5. In 1691, Athlone was besieged, and the battle of Aghrim fought. Then Galway surrendered, and the second siege of Limerick was begun. Limerick was the most important town in the west of Ireland. It is situated on the south side of the river Shannon, where the stream begins to broaden into an estuary. The Irish army was placed on the north side of the river, and their communication with the town was by means of a drawbridge, which was protected by

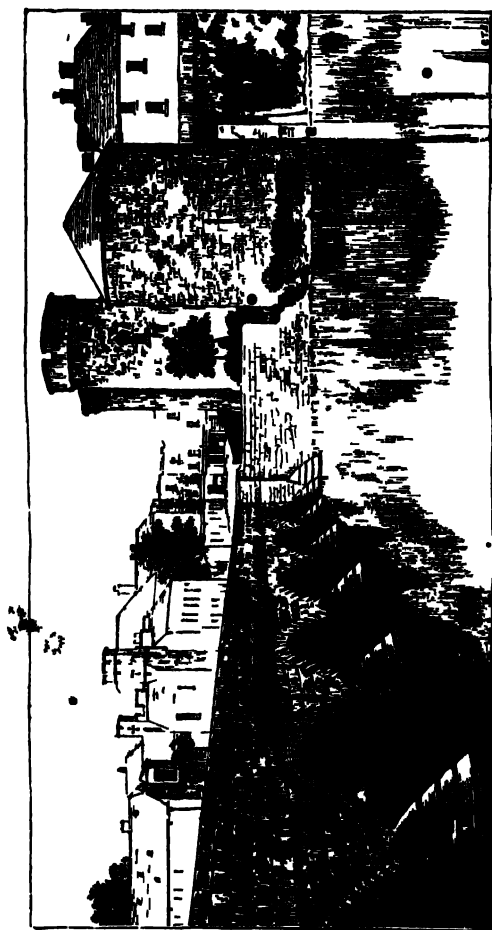
6. William's commander endeavoured to compel the town to surrender. Failing in this, he crossed the river and attacked the Irish forces. Without attempt-



ing to defend their position, they turned and fled to the hills, leaving all their stores behind them.

7. A few days after, William again crossed the

river, bombarded the fort, and compelled its defenders



CASTLE AND BRIDGE LIMERICK

to take flight, only a few succeeding in getting into the city. Seeing no hope of succour, the people in Limerick

agreed to surrender. With the treaty and pacification of Limerick, the subjugation of Ireland may be said to have been completed.

8. The treaty permitted those soldiers who desired it to leave their country, and about 14,000 took advantage of the permission, and crossed over to France. These formed the famous Irish Brigade, the members of which were often conspicuous for their bravery and success in the subsequent wars of the Continent.

9. Another part of the treaty promised the Roman Catholics the free exercise of their religion, and the enjoyment of the privileges they had possessed during the reign of Charles II. Naturally, on its acceptance by the besiegers the people were jubilant, and looked upon the treaty as the charter of their civil and religious liberties. Their joy, however, was shortlived. The treaty was confirmed by the English Parliament; but when the Irish Parliament met in Dublin it was composed entirely of Protestants, who refused to ratify the arrangement. During the two following years the most severe penal laws were passed against the Roman Catholics. By them no Papist was allowed to teach in a school, to be a solicitor, or to be a guardian. No Catholic could succeed to land by descent or in any other way; they were forbidden to marry Protestants; the clergy were banished, and the priests were compelled to be registered.

7. *Subjugation.* Obtaining the mastery over.

9. *Jubilant.* Very joyful; as people are at a Jubilee, or great feast.

Papist. A Roman Catholic.

46.—The Battle of Killiecrankie, 1689; and the Massacre of Glencoe, 1692

1. Scotland, like Ireland, had a Parliament of its own; and after the English Convention had proved successful, William agreed to call one for Scotland. The acts of this Convention were very similar to the one held in England. William and Mary were jointly proclaimed, after the throne had been declared vacant, and were accepted as King and Queen.

2. Among the members of the Convention was Graham of Claverhouse, who had been made Viscount Dundee on account of the zeal with which he had espoused the cause of James, and had persecuted the Covenanters. Finding the cause of James hopeless in the Convention, and fearing personal arrest, he fled to the Highlands.

3. Here he used his knowledge of the native character to rouse the people into rebellion. Among the rival clans were the Campbells and the Macdonalds. For a time the latter had been in the ascendant, but now the head of the Campbells had been chosen to take the offer of the Crown to William and Mary; and the Macdonalds and all others who had in any way been oppressed by the Campbells readily joined Dundee, in the hope of wreaking their vengeance on them.

4. At the head of 3000 men, Dundee marched south to Blair Athole, where he found the castle in the hands of the steward, who had deserted his young master and espoused the cause of the fallen monarch. The English general, by a toilsome march, had reached

the valley at the head of the pass of Killiecrankie, when they were furiously attacked by the Highlanders. The English met them with a fire of musketry, and



THE BATTLEGROUND OF KILLIECRANKIE.

many Highlanders were killed. Without stopping for an instant, however, they threw themselves with all their force on the English, using their broadswords with such effect that the English general, and his

followers were driven backwards into the narrow gorge through which runs the swift and turbulent Garry.

5. Many of the English were drowned, and nearly two thousand lost their lives; but the victory was of no service to the insurgents. In charging against a body of English, Viscount Dundee was slain. The Highlanders, deprived of their leader, and caring little for the cause in which they were engaged, since they had got the better of their enemies the Campbells, loaded themselves with booty and retired northwards. The remains of the English army, under General Mackay, retreated to Stirling.

6. Successive attempts were made to keep alive the rebellion, but the Highlanders were again and again defeated, and the war came to an end. To overawe the people for the future, various forts were built in the Western Highlands, Fort-William, at the head of Loch Linnhe, and Fort-Augustus, at the south end of Loch Ness, being among the number.

7. Out of this war rose one of the two incidents which more than any other mar the fame of William. To gain the goodwill of the chiefs of the clans the English Government made two proposals. Their allegiance was first to be bought with a large sum of money; but when the results of this were considered doubtful, their pardon and an indemnity for past offences were offered to those who would take the oath of allegiance, and whose followers would give up their arms before the 1st of January, 1692.

8. The money was entrusted to a Campbell, who demanded from Macdonald of Glencoe reparation for thefts of cattle which the clan of the Macdonald had

carried away. Macdonald went back in great anger to his mountain glen without having taken the oath of allegiance. At the very last moment he was persuaded to accept the terms of surrender, and on the last day of the year he went to Fort-William to take the oath.

9. At Fort-William the officer was not empowered to administer the oath, and Macdonald made his way to the Sheriff at Inverary. But a great snowstorm impeded his progress, and it was the 6th of January before the clan reached that town and made due surrender. Macdonald, now believing everything was right, returned to Glencoe.

10. In the meantime one of his enemies had procured an order, signed by William himself, for the extirpation of Macdonald and his clan. An officer named Campbell, with 120 men, went into the valley feigning friendship and goodwill to the natives, who treated them with all kindness and hospitality for a fortnight. At the end of that time, when they were unarmed and least expecting treachery, the soldiers fell upon them and massacred them indiscriminately.

11. This happened on the 13th February. Of the clan forty were slain; and those who succeeded in escaping death by the sword fell victims to the severity of the climate. The massacre caused a great outcry, but its authors escaped punishment, although they had planned it solely from personal feeling against the head of the Macdonald clan.

8. *Reparation.* A making amends.

10. *Extirpation.* Entire destruction.

47.—The Massacre of Glencoe

1. "Oh! tell me, harper, wherefore flow
Thy wayward notes of wail and woe,
Far down the desert of Glencoe,
Where none may list their melody ?
2. "Say, harp'st thou to the mists that fly,
Or to the dun deer glancing by,
Or to the eagle that from high
Screams chorus to thy minstrelsy ?"
3. "No, not to these, for these have rest ;
The mist-wreath hath the mountain crest,
The stag his lair, the erne her nest,
Abode of lone security ;
4. "But those for whom I pour the lay,
Not wild-wood deep, nor mountain gray,
Not this deep dell that shrouds from day,
Could screen from treacherous cruelty.
5. "Their flag was furled, and mute their drum :
The very household dogs were dumb,
Unwont to bay at guests that come
In guise of hospitality.
6. "His blithest notes the piper plied,
Her gayest snood the maiden tied,
The dame her distaff flung aside
To tend her kindly housewifery.

7. "The hand that mingled in the meal,
At midnight drew the felon steel,



THE PASS OF GLENCOE.

And gave the host's kind breast to feel
Meed for his hospitality !

8. "The friendly heart which warmed that hand,
At midnight armed it with the brand ;
Which bade destruction's flames expand
Their red and fearful blazonry.
 9. "Then woman's shriek was heard in vain ;
Nor infancy's unpitied plain,
More than the warrior's groan, could gain
Respite from ruthless butchery.
 10. "The winter-wind, that whistled shrill,
The snows that night that choked the hill,
Though wild and pitiless, had still
Far more than Saxon clemency !
 11. "Long have my harp's best notes been gone,
Few are its strings and faint their tone ;
They can but sound in desert lone
Their gray-haired master's misery:
 12. "Were each gray hair a minstrel-string,
Each chord should imprecations fling,
Till startled Scotland loud should ring—
'Revenge for blood and treachery !' "
- SCOTT.

2. *Dun.* Of a darkish colour.

3. *Erna.* The sea-eagle ; the golden eagle.

6. *Snood.* A fillet, or band, worn by a maiden.

9. *Plain.* Complaint.

48.—Graham of Claverhouse

1. Among the best-known characters in Scotland during the Stuart period perhaps the one which

has roused the greatest amount of enthusiasm on the one hand, and the most violent hatred on the other, was that of John Graham of Claverhouse, afterwards Viscount Dundee.

2. Claverhouse was born about the close of the reign of Charles I. He was the son of Sir William Graham of Claverhouse, and was educated at St. Andrews University. The surest way to fortune in those days was by following the practice of arms, and, on leaving college, Graham went as a volunteer in the army of France. He next went to Holland, and is reported to have saved the life of the Prince of Orange in 1674. Promotion being too slow for him, he returned to Scotland with such a reputation for courage and ability that he almost immediately received a commission in a troop of cavalry commanded by his kinsman the Marquis of Montrose.

3. He was thus enlisted on the side of the King, and for the next eleven years he was to be engaged in furthering the aims of Charles II. for establishing Episcopacy in Scotland. The resistance to Charles's efforts was long and fierce. The people banded themselves together under the Solemn League and Covenant, and prepared to resist the introduction of a form of Church government which was so obnoxious to them by every means in their power. Ministers left their churches, and on the moors, in caves, and other places preached to the people, who flocked after them in great numbers. They heeded not the atrocious laws nor the severe penalties enacted against them, determining to worship God as their consciences dictated.

4. These meetings were styled conventicles, and the people Covenanters. Claverhouse was placed in

command of the regiments which were employed to break up the conventicles, and destroy the Covenanters root and branch.

5. Among the most bitter of the persecutors was Archbishop Sharp. So incensed were the people against his persecutions that a few desperate men put him to death on Magus Moor in Fife in May 1679. A few days after this, the assassins joined the Covenanters in the west of Scotland.

6. To avenge the death of Sharp, Claverhouse left Glasgow with his dragoons. He came upon the Covenanters while they were engaged in worship at Drumclog, near Loudon Hill, in Ayrshire. His attack upon them was unsuccessful. They had chosen their ground well, and being led by able officers, they drove Claverhouse from the field of battle.

7. Flushed with their victory, the Covenanters marched towards Glasgow, their numbers increasing as they went along. But their leaders were divided in their counsels, and the Duke of Monmouth, under whom Claverhouse served as a cavalry captain, easily defeated them at Bothwell Bridge. Many of the Covenanters were slain, and a large number were shipped off to the plantations as slaves. The rebellion was put down, and Claverhouse continued his work of hunting down those who still continued to meet in conventicles in various parts of the country.

8. In this work he acted with relentless cruelty, and was aided and abetted by all the persons in authority. People were shot at their own doors, or put to death on the highway if they refused to give up the Covenant. So great was the cruelty of the oppressors that they looked upon Claverhouse and his

band as devils incarnate. The superstition was common that Claverhouse had made a compact with the devil, who shielded him from harm so that leaden bullets could not kill him, and the story went that when he was killed it was by a silver button shot by his own servant, who wished to rid the earth of such a monster.

9. Just before the Revolution, Claverhouse was created Viscount Dundee by King James. In the Scottish Convention Parliament, which met after the flight of James, Dundee supported the cause of James; but on finding the majority against him, he feared for his life and retired. He now determined to raise the Highlanders in favour of the Stuarts, and was very successful. A large army was soon collected, and on 27th July, 1689, it met the forces of King William near Athole Castle, north of the pass of Killiecrankie.

10. Towards the close of the day a terrific onslaught was made on the King's troops, who were completely routed. But the victory of the Highlanders was dearly bought. Riding at the head of his cavalry, Dundee was struck beneath the arm by a round shot, and he fell from his horse mortally wounded. His body was interred in Blair Athole churchyard, and the Highlanders without their leader returned to their mountain homes.

2. *Kinsman*. A distant relation.

4. *Conventicles*. Meetings.

Root and branch. From the highest to the lowest; completely.

8. *Abetted*. Helped on.

Incarnate. In human form.

49.—The French War, 1689-1697, and the Beginning of the National Debt

1. While the troubles in Ireland and Scotland had been in progress, England was not free from foreign enemies. William, when Prince of Orange, had formed one of a confederacy of the sovereigns of Europe to check the ambitious designs of Louis XIV. of France, the beginnings of which, as we have seen, had been greatly assisted by the foreign policy of Oliver Cromwell. William had also a very strong wish to defend Protestantism against Roman Catholicism. When he succeeded to the throne of England he had not much difficulty in persuading the English Parliament to declare war against France. They considered that the facts of James being received in France as the King of England, and of Louis having sent help to the Irish, were sufficient grounds for such a course of action.

2. War therefore was declared in May, 1689, but owing to the troubles at home, William did not personally engage in the conflict either in 1689 or the following year. The French gained a naval victory off Beachy Head, and the English Admiral, Lord Torrington, was dismissed the service for permitting the defeat.

3. The disgrace of such a defeat was atoned for in 1692, when Sir George Rooke completely defeated a French fleet off La Hogue, destroying twenty-five ships without himself losing a single vessel. In 1695 William took the town of Namur, and in 1697 the war was brought to an end by the Treaty of Ryswick.

4. By this treaty Louis recognised William as King

of Great Britain and Ireland, and promised in future not to lend any assistance to the designs of James for regaining the throne. By it, therefore, England was freed from the fear of invasion, and there was no likelihood of her becoming again a vassal of France as had been the case under Charles II. Peace was restored to Europe, and no single country held such a preponderating influence on the continent as to seriously threaten the balance of power in Europe. Indirectly also the commerce of England was increased during this period.

5. Another and less satisfactory feature of these wars was the commencement of the National Debt. Large sums of money were needed to carry on the operations by sea and land. Taxation seemed to have reached its utmost limits, and the only means of raising money appeared to be that of borrowing money from those who were willing to lend. A million sterling was first borrowed on the security of future taxes, the *National Debt* being thus commenced. At the close of William's reign it amounted to £16,000,000. The practice thus begun was subsequently followed on many occasions till the debt reached an enormous amount. It now exceeds £600,000,000.

6. Another war with France, of which you will read presently, was declared in 1701; but before active operations could be commenced William died. It has already been stated that William was not a great favourite with the English people on account of his haughty bearing and reserved disposition. He was, however, distinguished for personal bravery, indomitable perseverance, force of will, and great energy of character. To carry out the great purposes of his

life—namely, to curb the power of Louis, and to protect Protestantism, he accepted the throne of England. He succeeded in his endeavours, although in doing so he assisted in dispossessing his father-in-law of his throne. The greatest blot on his character is the signing of the order for the massacre of the MacDonalds.

7. William also broke faith with the French Protestants, whom he had induced to join his army by promising not to conclude peace till the revocation of the Edict of Nantes had been reversed. Yet by the Treaty of Ryswick he consented not to countenance revolts in France, and so deserted the Protestant cause in order to prevent Louis from helping James II.

3. *La Hogue.* A cape on the north coast of France.

Namur. A city of Belgium.

Ryswick. A village in Holland, S.E. of the Hague.

4. *Preponderating.* Outweighing.

7. *Edict of Nantes.* An edict published by Henry IV. of France, in 1598, which gave his Protestant subjects leave to worship as they liked. The edict was revoked by Louis XIV. in 1685, the result being that the Protestants were driven from France. Nantes is a city in the N.W. of France.

50.—The Battle off Cape La Hogue, 1692

1. Thursday in the morn, the ides of May,
 Recorded for ever the famous ninety-two;
 Brave Russel did discern by dawn of day,
 The lofty sails of France advancing now.
 All hands aloft, aloft! Let English valour shine; 5
 Let fly a culverin, the signal for the line.

Let every hand supply his gun ;
 Follow me, and you'll see
 That the battle will be soon begun.

2. Tourville on the main triumphant roll'd 19
 To meet the gallant Russel in combat on the
 deep ;
 He led the noble train of heroes bold
 To smite the English admiral at his feet.
 Now ev'ry valiant mind to vict'ry doth aspire ;
 The angry fight's begun, the sea itself on fire ; 15
 And mighty fate stood looking on,
 Whilst a flood, all of blood
 Fill'd the scuppers of the Royal Sun.

3. Sulphur, smoke, and fire disturb'd the air,
 With thunder and wonder affright the Gallic
 shore. 20
 Their regulated bands stood trembling near
 To see the lofty streamers now no more.
 At six o'clock the red the smiling victors led,
 To give a second blow, the fatal overthrow.
 Now death and horror equal reign, 25
 Now they cry, Run or die.
 British colours rid the vanquish'd main.

4. See they fly amaz'd through rocks and sands--
 One danger they grasp at to shun the greater
 fate.
 In vain they cry for aid to weeping lands ; 30
 The nymphs and sea-gods mourn their lost estate.
 For evermore adieu, thou Royal dazzling Sun ;
 From thine untimely end thy master's fate begun.

Enough, thou mighty king of war.

Now we sing, bless the king, 35

Let us drink to ev'ry British tar.

OLD BALLAD.

1. *Ides.* The 15th of May.
3. *Russel.* An English admiral who commanded together with Sir George Rooke.
6. *Culverin.* A long slender cannon.
10. *Tourville.* The French admiral.
18. *Scuppers.* Holes cut through the sides of a vessel to let water off the deck.
20. *Gallie.* French.
31. *Nymphs and sea-gods.* Imaginary deities of the ocean.
- 32. *Adieu.* Good-bye. •

51.—The Darien Scheme

1. Another event of great importance in William's reign was the failure of the Scotch settlers on the Isthmus of Darien. Twelve hundred men, under a leader named Paterson, had settled there for the purpose of founding a colony which should derive profit from the trade with both the East and West Indies.

2. The Scottish Parliament had granted a charter to a company which Paterson had formed, guaranteeing them a monopoly of all the trade for thirty-six years, and the privilege of importing all their goods, except tobacco and sugar, into England free of duty. So high were the expectations of success and profit, that many persons invested all their money in the company.

3. On reaching the isthmus, the promises of success were abundant. The soil was fertile, as was shown by fields of maize and forests of bamboo and coconut palms. The weather was warm and pleasant, and

the hopes of the colonists, as they built their houses of rose and sandal-wood, rose to the highest pitch.

4. Their good fortune, however, was only short-lived. Four serious obstacles frustrated the whole scheme. With the change of seasons came the heavy downfall of tropical rain, and the pleasant surroundings of their new home were turned into a pestilential swamp. The transport of goods from one side of the isthmus to the other they also found to be almost impracticable. The provisions which they had brought from Scotland became mouldy and unfit for use.

5. The greatest obstacles, however, were the want of succour from England, and the action of the English Government in preventing help from being sent to them from the neighbouring colonies. The Spaniards had protested against the expedition from the beginning, as a violation of the Treaty of Ryswick. The Scotch attributed William's conduct to his partiality for his Dutch subjects, and to anxiety lest the success of the colony should injure their foreign trade. Still greater was the dismay of the settlers when they learned that they were to get no help in the shape of arms, ammunition, or food from the colonies near them.

6. Assistance was daily expected from home, and as regularly were the settlers disappointed. When pestilence and famine had done their worst, the few who remained found their way to Jamaica, where they received the help which had been denied them while they were in Darien.

7. A second expedition under a soldier named Campbell found the settlement entirely deserted. He attempted to restore it, and for a time seemed to be

successful. But an attack by the Spaniards, although repelled for six weeks with great bravery, completely destroyed the colonists' hope of success, and in the end they all surrendered.

• 8. The feeling of resentment against England on account of this failure was very strong. Threats of revenge, and claims for indemnification for the losses sustained, were numerous. The ill-feeling engendered led to a desire on the part of many to combine still more closely the interests of England and Scotland. When William addressed the House of Lords upon the question of the union of the legislatures of the two countries, he declared its absolute necessity in the interests of both countries.

9. When the union of England and Scotland was at length agreed upon, the excitement caused by the failure of the Darien Scheme was allayed by a grant of £398,000 as compensation to the sufferers by that mishap.

3. *Maize*. The native corn of America.

Sandal-wood. A sweet-smelling wood, with a close yellow grain.

5. *Violation*. A breaking.

8. *Indemnification*. Payment for loss sustained.

52.—The Act of Settlement, 1701

1. An Act called the Act of Settlement was passed in the last year of William's reign. It is important, because by it the right of succession to the throne was limited, and was placed under the control of Parliament.

2. Mary, William's wife, had died, leaving no children. Anne, the second daughter of James, had married Prince George of Denmark, and had a large family, but they all died in infancy or youth. The succession to the Crown was thus unprovided for, and if the results of the Revolution were to remain, it became necessary to arrange for the succession after the death of Anne.

3. Those who had the nearest right by relationship to the throne were James II., who had been deposed, and the Duchess of Savoy, the grand-daughter of Charles I. But they were Roman Catholics, and it was to get rid of a Roman Catholic that the Revolution had taken place. The Act of Settlement therefore provided for the succession of the nearest Protestant heir, the Princess Sophia of Hanover, and such of her heirs as were Protestants.

4. Most of the provisions of this Act of Settlement are still in force, and it is important that we should know something of them. One of the first says that whoever should hereafter come to the throne should join in communion with the Church of England. The Sovereign of England must therefore be a member of the Established Church.

5. Jealousy had been caused by the partiality of William for his Dutch subjects, and fears were entertained lest the English people should, against their wishes, become involved in war on behalf of their King's continental possessions. A clause of the Act was designed to prevent this, stating that the nation should not be obliged to engage in any such war without the consent of Parliament.

6. Other clauses provided that no aliens should be

members of Parliament, or should hold office under the Crown. The judges also were to retain their offices only during good behaviour, but on such conditions that they could not be removed except on an address to the Crown by both Houses of Parliament.

7. The power of Parliament increased very considerably during William's reign; and the Cabinet system, which we dimly saw beginning in Charles the Second's time, was almost fully established as well. William, when he first came to the throne, had attempted to govern by means of a mixed ministry of Whigs and Tories, but he soon found that this arrangement would not answer; and finally, as the Tories were on the side of the Stuarts, he threw in his lot altogether with the Whigs.

8. He then agreed to the Triennial Act, which declared that no Parliament should last more than three years; and a very short time after, certain quarrels among the Whig party being made up, a strong and united Whig Ministry came into office. Ever since this time it has been customary for the King's ministers to be chosen from that party which has the greatest number of members in the House of Commons; and as the Commons are chosen by the people, the nation at large has an indirect voice in the choice of ministers.

9. Moreover, the necessity of the wars against France compelled William to get money for carrying them on; and this, as well as the provisions of the Mutiny Act, made it imperative for him to assemble his Parliament every year. The Commons, in addition, had gradually established the principle of appropriation of supplies, which means that they would not vote any

money unless they knew for what purposes it was going to be used ; and thus it was that in every way during William the Third's reign the powers of Parliament made themselves more felt.

9. *Imperative.* Absolutely necessary.

ANNE

1702-1714

53.—The War of the Spanish Succession (1)

1. The Peace of Ryswick had been the first check upon the power of Louis XIV. of France ; and in the following year another restraint was put upon him, but from this, in the end, he managed to get himself free. The King of Spain, Charles the Second, was dying, and he had no children. There was, therefore, a great excitement as to who should get his dominions when he was gone. Charles, however, had had two sisters, one of whom was married to the King of France, and the other to the Emperor of Germany.

2. Louis was very anxious to seize Spain for himself, and to add it to the territories of France ; but the other Princes of Europe felt that this would not do at all, because such a great extent of empire all in one piece would make France inordinately powerful. It was seen that at any hazard Spain must not be allowed to fall into Louis' hands.

3. William therefore undertook to arrange a treaty with Louis, and to persuade him to allow Spain to be

ruled by the Electoral Prince of Bavaria, a great-nephew of Charles. Louis' own grandson was, of course, another great-nephew of the King of Spain; and, therefore, had as good a claim as the Electoral Prince. But Louis knew he was not strong enough to resist the whole of Europe, on whose behalf William was making these negotiations with him; and so he agreed, in the First Partition Treaty, that the Electoral Prince should be recognised as Charles's heir.

4. This arrangement would have done very well; but unluckily, almost directly after the treaty was signed, the Electoral Prince fell ill and died. There was nothing for it but to make a second treaty; the difficulty now, however, was to know to whom the inheritance should be given.

5. The sister of King Charles who had married Leopold, the Emperor of Germany, was dead; and Leopold had married again, and had two sons. The eldest of these was, of course, to succeed his father as Emperor, so there was no question of letting Spain go to him; but the second son, the Archduke Charles of Austria, was the man fixed upon; and by the Second Partition Treaty, he was acknowledged as the heir to Spain.

6. The year after this second treaty was signed, Charles of Spain died. He had been really out of his mind for some time; and knew very little as to all these arrangements which were made about the things that were to happen after his death. But now that he was actually dead, the Archduke, in accordance with the treaty, made ready to go to Spain and take his throne.

7. But Louis suddenly declared that he repudiated

the treaties; and that his grandson, Philip of Anjou, should be King. Europe was indignant at this, because Louis was deliberately breaking his word; and everybody knew that there would have to be a terrible war. A Grand Alliance of nearly all Europe was formed against Louis, for the purpose of winning Spain by the sword, and making the Archduke Charles the King. England did not join this alliance at once; because William had no wish to be always fighting; and he had gone through a seven years' struggle with Louis already.

8. But in 1701 Louis went a step farther. Not content with throwing over the Partition Treaties, he now disavowed the Peace of Ryswick; for, James the Second of England happening to die that year, Louis broke his promise to William, and declared that he would consider James's son as the real King of England. This roused the whole of England at once; and William joined the Grand Alliance. He was preparing to take active part in the struggle, when he was thrown from his horse, and died of the fever which followed on breaking a bone.

9. The war, therefore, had to be fought without him; and lasted, in fact, through almost the whole of the reign of Queen Anne. There were four terrible battles between the French and the English, of which you will read presently; and William's place as a general was taken by the famous Duke of Marlborough. In the end, however, it was the Duke of Anjou who won the Spanish Crown; but the strength of France was almost shattered by the war.

2. *Inordinately.* Without moderation.

7. *Repudiated.* Refused to be bound by.

54.—The War of the Spanish Succession (2)

1. Marlborough's first great object was to drive the French from the towns in Belgium of which they had taken possession, and to prevent an invasion of Holland. He was completely successful, taking many towns and dislodging the French from the district between the Meuse and the Rhine. When he returned home at the close of the year's campaign he received the thanks of the Parliament, and was created a Duke. In the same year the English fleet attacked a number of Spanish galleons in Vigo Bay, seizing much booty and destroying the ships.

2. The war was carried on till 1713, operations taking place nearly every year, and ending almost invariably in favour of the Grand Alliance. But perhaps the most important campaign was that of 1704, of which the Battle of Blenheim was the chief event. Louis had conceived a bold plan for breaking up the Alliance. His army was in several parts of the continent—in Italy, Bavaria, and Belgium. These various detachments were to be all concentrated in Austria, to besiege the capital. Terms of surrender were to be there dictated to the Emperor, and after marching and defeating Holland, England would be left to be conquered alone.

3. Had Louis been able to carry out his schemes, the war would have probably ended in his favour. But Marlborough discovered the plan, and determined to defeat it. His English forces were largely augmented, and by a series of rapid marches, in which he was helped by the Dutch generals and their army,

he reached the Danube ; joining, in Bavaria, the brave Prince Eugene of Savoy, who commanded that portion of the army which belonged to the Emperor of Germany.

4. Marlborough next met the Elector of Bavaria, who was the sole ally of Louis, and defeated him. The position in the neighbourhood being a strong one, he placed his stores in safety, and advanced towards Blenheim to meet the combined forces of the French generals, where he found the enemy posted in a very strong position. On their right they had the Danube river, with wide, difficult banks. On the left there was a range of hills, and in front a small river with a good deal of marshy ground near by. The troops were divided into three divisions, and large reserve forces were posted in two small towns.

5. The battle took place on Sunday, 13th August, 1704. It began by an English attack upon the village of Blenheim, but the quick firing of the French through the loop-holes in some hastily-formed log-barriers caused them to retreat. A second and a third attack were equally unsuccessful. To keep the defenders in the town, the commander was ordered afterwards to make only feigned attacks.

6. Marlborough then led the centre division of his troops, comprised chiefly of cavalry, across the little river Nebel, although he had great difficulty in doing so, owing to the swampy nature of the ground. The French general soon attacked him, but would have done so more successfully had he commenced while the English were battling with the difficulties of the morass.

7. The Irish Brigade, composed of the Irish



THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH AT BLENHEIM.

soldiers who had left Ireland on the conclusion of the Treaty of Limerick, succeeded in repulsing Marlborough's Hanoverian allies, and the Duke was compelled to detach a large number of his troops to assist Prince Eugène. He forced the Irishmen at last to retreat across the river, and then returned with his cavalry and renewed his attack on the French cavalry, whom he ultimately drove off the field. Some fled towards the Danube and were drowned, while large numbers were taken prisoners.

8. The cannon of the allies were next directed against Blenheim, and the gallant defenders of the town were unable to resist the attack thus made; but after several vain attempts to cut their way through the enemy's lines, were compelled to surrender. On learning that the French general had been routed, the Bavarians and the other French commanders hastily withdrew their troops. Of the French and Bavarians, two-thirds of the whole army of 60,000 were either killed or taken prisoners, including a very large number of superior officers. The Allied armies under Marlborough lost 5000 killed, and had 8000 wounded.

9. The results of the battle were in this respect very decisive. From this time also the military power of the French was inferior to that of the Allies. Bavaria submitted to the Emperor, and there was now little fear of Germany being threatened by the French. The superiority of the Allies being manifest, the Protestant countries of Europe took heart, and ceased to stand in awe of Louis, who henceforth had to act on the defensive instead of being the aggressor.

10. In England the news of the victory was

received with great rejoicings. Parliament granted to the Duke the Manor of Woodstock, and built upon it a splendid palace which was named Blenheim, after the battle. In the month following this victory, Sir George Rooke captured Gibraltar, which has ever since been an English possession. The combined Spanish and French fleets afterwards attempted to retake it, but were unsuccessful, and the defeat of their fleets destroyed the naval power of France in the Mediterranean.

11. The Duke of Marlborough was equally successful during the campaigns of 1706, 1708, and 1709. In the first of these years he gained the Battle of Ramillies, which drove the French from the Netherlands, while the Archduke was acknowledged by all the towns in that country as Charles III., King of Spain. In addition to the rewards already given to him, Marlborough was awarded for this victory a pension to himself and his heirs of £5000 annually.

12. The Battle of Oudenarde was the chief event of the 1708 campaign, and the Battle of Malplaquet that of 1709. Several attempts were made by Louis to put an end to the war, but were unsuccessful, as he could not consent to the hard terms required by the Allies. The war was, therefore, continued both in Spain and the Netherlands till 1713, when the death of the Emperor and the recall of Marlborough caused a general peace, which was concluded by the signing of the Treaty of Utrecht.

- 1. *Vigo Bay.* On the west coast of Spain.
- 4. *Blenheim.* A village in Bavaria upon the Danube.
- 10. *Gibraltar.* A promontory at the south-west corner of Spain.

11. *Ramillies*. Twenty-six miles from Brussels.
12. *Oudenarde*. Fourteen miles from Ghent.
Malplaquet. In France ; a few miles from Mons.
Utrecht. A city in the north of Holland.

55.—The Union with Scotland

1. One of the most important events of this reign was the Union of the Parliaments of England and Scotland. Although they had had the same sovereign for more than a century, the two peoples and the two Parliaments did not always work cordially together, and statesmen of both countries had long seen the desirability of uniting them under one common government.

2. William the Third had given expression to such an opinion in the year before his death ; and in her first speech to the Parliament, Queen Anne had urged the appointment of persons to consider the feasibility of the union.

3. Accordingly, commissioners were appointed on both sides, but the demands of the Scotch were of such a character that although all were agreed, that it would be well to have one sovereign and one Parliament, the negotiations came to an end. Both sides went back to their respective Parliaments, and enacted measures which, if carried out, would have led to interminable war and absolute division.

4. The Scotch Parliament declared that they would elect a Protestant descendant of the Stuarts as King, but that he should be incapable of being King of England, unless the trade, freedom, and religion of Scotland were fully established. On the

other hand, the English Parliament passed a Bill declaring that unless the Scotch Parliament should settle upon the same succession as the English had done by Christmas, 1705, then all Scotchmen out of Scotland should be treated as aliens, and the importation of linen, sheep, and cattle from Scotland should be prohibited. As upon these depended the prosperity of Scotland, the Bill caused great excitement, and war was imminent.

5. Better counsels, however, prevailed, and after the repeal of the Alien Bill, fresh Commissioners were appointed, and a Union Bill was passed by both Parliaments in 1707. This Bill settled the conditions under which the union of the two countries exists at the present time.

6. It provided that the two countries should be united under the name of Great Britain, and that after the death of Anne the succession should remain to the Princess Sophia and her Protestant descendants. It is now quite customary when giving the address of a town in Scotland, to write N.B., the initials of "North Britain," instead of the word Scotland. Scotland was empowered to send to the Union Parliament sixteen Peers to the House of Lords, and forty-five members to the House of Commons. The Peers were to be elected from among their own body; and were to serve during the Parliament for which they were elected. Owing to the increase in population in Scotland since that time, the number of members sent to the House of Commons was, by the Reform Bill of 1885, increased to sixty.

7. Each country was to retain its own laws and judges, and its own national Church. There is thus

an Episcopal Established Church in England and a Presbyterian Established Church in Scotland. Provision was also made that equal privileges of trade should be enjoyed; the same duties should be imposed on exports and imports, and the same coins, weights and measures should be used. This provision materially increased the wealth and prosperity of Scotland. A sum of £398,000 was allotted to Scotland in compensation for the losses sustained by the Darien expedition, and for other purposes.

8. A new flag, formed by a combination of the St. George's Cross, the flag of England, and the St. Andrew's Cross, the flag of Scotland, was adopted. The Union has been a benefit to both countries. Instead of Scotland being a troublesome neighbour to England, she has proved a staunch friend and ally. At the same time she has grown in wealth and prosperity. The only rivalry existing between the two countries now is a friendly rivalry in arts, science, commerce, and manufacture. Each country endeavours to promote good will, peace, and contentment, in its own borders and with its neighbour.

2. *Feasibility.* Possibility of being done.

4. *Aliens.* Subjects of a foreign country.

7. *Materially.* To a great extent.

8. *Staunch.* Firm, or constant.

56.—Daniel De Foe

1. One of the persons of the Stuart period to whom this generation is indebted for a knowledge of those times was Daniel De Foe. Boys have cause to remember him as the author of *Robinson Crusoe*, that

delightful story from which they so early derive many hours of pleasure.

2. De Foe was born in London in the year 1661, a few years before the great fire. His father was a butcher, and fairly well-to-do; for he was able to send his son to a Nonconformist College in Newington, where the boy made good use of his time, becoming acquainted with theology, church history, geography, history, mathematics, and languages. As a youth he seems to have been of a pleasant disposition, full of quick and generous impulses, and never taking unfair advantage, for he says he "learned from an English boxing boy never to strike an enemy when he is down!"

3. De Foe was intended for the Presbyterian ministry, but for some unknown reason he did not become a preacher. At the age of twenty-one, however, he began writing pamphlets, taking the popular side in politics. Three years later he was a volunteer in the army of Monmouth, and at the close of the rebellion he narrowly escaped being taken prisoner.

4. He then returned to London and commenced business as a hosier, but took such a keen interest in the controversies of the time, that his own interests were secondary only to that which he felt in the concerns of the country. It seemed imperative upon him to place private convenience and advantage on one side, when the well-being of the nation and the most important liberties of the people were endangered. One of the foremost doctrines of his day was the pretension to the divine right of kings. This was preached from the pulpit as well as on the platform, and De Foe did not scruple to denounce it.

5. After the Revolution, De Foe devoted himself to his business, but many of his commercial transactions with Spain and Portugal were unprofitable, and he became a bankrupt. When afterwards he prospered, he devoted his surplus profits to the payment of the debts incurred at this time. This was an example of commercial honesty which was then most rare, and gained for him the commendation of even his enemies.

6. The commencement of the war with France to preserve the balance of power in Europe, and to curb the ambition of Louis, brought De Foe into the service of King William III., by whom he was employed to devise means of raising money. Among other work he was engaged as accountant to the Commissioners of the Glass Duty. He also became a partner in some brick and tile works at Tilbury. While thus engaged he wrote an *Essay on Projects*, in which he advocated many objects such as friendly societies, military schools, lunatic asylums, and institutions for the better education of women.

7. After the publication of a poem called *Truc-Born Englishman*, De Foe had a personal introduction to William III., from whom he received many substantial marks of favour. This was in fact the most prosperous period of his life.

8. On the death of King William, De Foe lost favour at Court. The Tories displaced the Whigs. The toleration accorded to dissenters was repudiated, and strenuous exertions were made to subject them to disabilities, civil and religious. De Foe thereupon wrote a pamphlet called *The Shortest Way with the Dissenters*, a work which apparently recommended the

most stringent penalties upon these people ; but which was in reality written to ridicule the pretensions of the High Church Party.

9. Nearly all classes of people were at first deceived as to the real intent of the pamphlet, but when it became known, the rage of De Foe's opponents knew no bounds. A reward was offered for his apprehension, and he was compelled to go into hiding. The book was publicly burned, and when De Foe surrendered himself to save the publisher and printer, he was sentenced to pay a fine of 200 marks, to stand three times in the pillory, to find securities for his good behaviour for seven years, and to be imprisoned during the pleasure of the sovereign.

10. Although De Foe lost £3500 by this prosecution, he was in no way daunted. He was not subjected to insult while in the pillory, but the populace regarded him with sympathy and interest. Instead of pelting him with stones and other missiles, they decked him with garlands, and proceeded to drink his health. He remained in prison two years, and while his integrity was strongly put to the test, for he was offered release and employment if he would only cease his opposition to the Government and become their servant.

11. On his release De Foe wrote in favour of the Union between England and Scotland, and on account of his general knowledge and great probity he was sent to Scotland to forward the Union. For his services he was rewarded with a fixed salary, and an appointment under Government.

12. From this time he ceased writing political pamphlets, but published many entertaining popular

books, of which *Robinson Crusoe* is the best known. The whole of these were very successful, and De Foe enjoyed a considerable income from his writings, but his last days were saddened by disease, and embittered by the bad conduct of an ungrateful son. He died on the 24th April, 1731, and was interred in the Bunhill Fields burying-ground in London.

5. *Surplus*. What is left over beyond what is wanted.
8. *Stringent*. Very strict.
9. *Pillory*. An instrument of punishment, consisting of a large wooden frame to which the criminal was fastened by his neck and wrists.

57.—Other Events of Queen Anne's Reign

1. Besides the war on the continent, the reign of Queen Anne is chiefly remarkable for the number of distinguished literary men who flourished in it, and for the great strife which existed between the two parties in the State—the Whigs and the Tories. William III. had not been a popular sovereign, and had generally favoured the Whigs, who were the greatest opponents of the Stuarts, and whose political cry was "The Protestant succession in danger."

2. Anne's accession to the throne was very acceptable to the Tories, for she had been taught to look upon the Whigs as Republicans, and as the strong enemies of the Church of England. She had also been badly treated by William and Mary, and this conduct she attributed to the influence of the Whigs. A change in the ministry therefore was made almost at the commencement of the reign, but during the

early part of it Marlborough was the person who had the greatest power in the country.

3. This influence he exercised very largely through his wife, who had long been an attendant and a personal friend of the Queen. The Duchess and the Queen addressed each other by familiar names, and the Duke's wishes were almost invariably carried out by the Queen.

4. The strife for political supremacy was carried on bitterly. Violent pamphlets were written on both sides, and eventually the Tories succeeded in displacing the Whigs. They were helped in their efforts by several circumstances. The people were getting tired of the war. A new favourite was gradually taking the place of the Duchess in the affections of the Queen; and a Tory clergyman, Dr. Sacheverell, preached a sermon in London declaring that by the action of the Government the Church was in danger. This sermon caused great excitement throughout the country. In the trial which followed, the sermon was described as a scandalous and seditious libel; and the matter ended in Sacheverell being suspended for three years, and in the publication being publicly burnt. The ministry, however, was discredited, and after a fierce quarrel with the Duchess of Marlborough, the wished-for change took place.

5. One of the first acts of the new Government was to endeavour to put an end to the war. Marlborough's assistance to this end was sought and refused. The Tories, however, were determined that the campaigns should cease, and they succeeded in procuring from the Queen the dismissal of Marlborough; and then prosecuted him for misappropriating money's

intended for the army. He was found guilty, and was consequently deprived of all his offices; so that for a time he retired from public life altogether.

6. The two chief persons in the ministry were now the Earl of Oxford and Viscount Bolingbroke. A great rivalry existed between them. The former favoured the Hanoverian succession, while the latter was anxious for the return of the Stuarts. A few years previously there had been an attempted invasion of England by the son of James II. Owing to a want of concerted action on the part of the Scots, he never landed in the country, and narrowly escaped being taken prisoner. So great was the imminence of danger again at this time that a large reward was offered for the capture of the Pretender, as James's son was called, should he attempt to land in the country.

7. The quarrels between the rival ministers ended in the Earl of Oxford being dismissed, and Bolingbroke taking his place. Bolingbroke now employed his position for the purpose of securing the return of the Stuarts. He surrounded himself with Jacobite friends. He placed a Jacobite in command of the Cinque Ports to aid in the landing of the Pretender or to resist that of George of Hanover. The Earl of Mar was appointed to office in Scotland; and everything seemed to favour Bolingbroke's plans, when a fatal illness seized the Queen. Before the Jacobite arrangements were matured a new Prime Minister was appointed, and effective steps were taken to secure the succession of Prince George; so that when the Queen died he was proclaimed King without opposition.

4. *Discredited.* Not believed in.

6. *Imminence.* Near approach.

58.—"Good Queen Anne"

1. To the name which was universally given to Queen Anne, she was in many respects thoroughly entitled. She was generous to her friends and her people. Her conduct as a wife and a mother were most exemplary. Although a woman of no great genius, she had a high sense of duty and strong integrity of purpose. She sometimes took violent prejudices, and allowed herself to be influenced and guided by favourites, but her goodness of heart was never called into question.

2. Examples of her generosity are numerous—both to her personal friends and to her people. To the Duke of Marlborough she gave, out of her own income, £2000 a year in recognition of his services, which she thought had been inadequately requited by Parliament. She refused to devote the whole of the provision made for her by Parliament to her own use, and declared that as long as the taxes were so heavy £100,000 of her income should be annually devoted to the public service.

3. Perhaps that act of her generosity which is most fully remembered at the present time is the gift of the *first-fruits* and the *tithes* for the service of the Church. These were two imposts originally made by the Pope to carry on the holy wars. After the wars had ceased the taxes had been continued, and the proceeds had been absorbed into the general income of the Papal See. The first-fruits were the first year's profits from any spiritual office. When a person was appointed to a post in the Church his first year's

income was taken up in this manner. The tenths were a tenth part of the yearly value of each benefice or living.

4. After the Reformation, the King having claimed to be the head of the English Church, these taxes were supposed to belong to him. Together the two taxes produced at this time about £15,000 a year. In celebration of her birthday, Queen Anne in 1704 obtained permission from Parliament to give the proceeds in future to the Church. The money is administered by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners at the present day, and from various causes it is much greater in amount than formerly. It is devoted to augmenting the incomes of poor livings, and to assisting in building parsonages, and forming new parishes for Church purposes. It still bears the name of Queen Anne's bounty.

5. Under Queen Anne the power of England on the continent was extended, but her reign is also noted for the expansion of English rule and commerce in America. Although the great war of the Spanish Succession did not accomplish its main object, yet by the Treaty of Utrecht, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, the Hudson's Bay Territory, and St. Kitt's in the West Indies were added to English territory. Gibraltar and Minorca were also retained by England.

6. Anne's reign is even more remarkable for the number of famous authors who flourished in it. Of these, the prose writers were more numerous and more celebrated than the poets, though even among the latter there were several of great notoriety. Chief of them was Alexander Pope, a man who produced verse which was finished to a higher degree than any other

before or since; but he was not a poet in the sense of being an imaginative writer, as were Shakspeare or Milton before him, or Shelley and Keats after him. The subjects of his verse were nearly all things concerned with the busy world of politics or society. He could sketch off the characters of people in brilliant, vigorous lines, giving perfect portraits of his friends, or satirical descriptions of his enemies, of which every verse stung like the lash of a whip. He also wrote philosophy in verse, discoursing upon the nature and the attributes of man.

7. A truer poet, though not such a finished versifier, was Joseph Addison, who is, however, better known as a prose writer, and as the author of a series of delightful essays, which he brought out in conjunction with his friend Richard Steele. These essays were published daily, for about four years, under the name of the *Spectator*. In them Addison described himself as a man who delighted to watch his fellow-beings, and study their foibles and weakness, their humour and their goodness. He laughed gently at the follies of the day, not making use of the bitter sarcasm in which Pope could indulge, but rather leading people towards the right, and encouraging them to better things. The essays were written in the purest and best of English; and have remained ever since as models of what such work should be.

8. Another equally famous prose writer was the great Jonathan Swift, afterwards Dean of St. Patrick's, Dublin. His writings during Queen Anne's reign were chiefly political; and he was one of those who were grievously disappointed by the failure of the Tories, and by the accession of George I., at Queen

Anne's death. The book by which he is best known was not written until George I.'s reign, and therefore does not properly belong to our period. It is called *Gulliver's Travels*; and is a book of imaginary adventures, in which the hero, Gulliver, gets first into a land of pigmies, called Lilliput; and then into a land of giants, Brobdingnag. The tale is so fascinating that children devour it like a fairy-story; yet it has a meaning, for it is a political satire, and grave students can read it with interest for its historical meaning, and with admiration for its marvellous style.

9. Of Daniel De Foe and his immortal *Robinson Crusoe* mention has already been made. There were other people famous both for verse and prose during Queen Anne's reign; but De Foe, Pope, Addison, Steele, and Swift are the most prominent of all.

2. *Requite.* To repay either good or evil.
3. *Imposts.* Taxes or exactions; things imposed, or laid on.
4. *Augmenting.* Increasing.
6. *Shelley* } Two famous English poets of the nineteenth
Keats } century.
7. *Foible.* Weakness or failing; small fault.
8. *Pigmies.* Dwarfs.
- Devour.* To eat ravenously; hence, to read with eagerness.

59.—Travelling in the Stuart Period

1. In the seventeenth century the inhabitants of London were, for almost every practical purpose, farther from Reading than they now are from Edinburgh, and farther from Edinburgh than they now are from Vienna. There were no railways, except a few

made of timber from the mouths of the Northumbrian coal-pits to the banks of the Tyne.

2. There was very little internal communication by water. A few attempts had been made to deepen and embank the natural streams, but with small success. Hardly a single canal had been even projected.

3. It was by the highways that both travellers and goods generally passed from place to place; and those highways appear to have been far worse than might have been expected from the wealth and civilisation of the country. On the best lines of communication the ruts were deep and the way often such as could hardly be distinguished in the dusk from the unenclosed heath and fen which lay on both sides.

4. It was only in fine weather that the whole breadth of the road was available for wheeled vehicles. Often the mud lay deep on the right and on the left, while a narrow track of firm ground rose above the quagmire. At such times obstructions and quarrels were frequent, and the path was sometimes blocked up during a long time by carriers, neither of whom would break the way. It happened almost every day that coaches stuck fast until a team of cattle could be procured from some neighbouring farm to tug them out of the slough.

5. On the best highways heavy articles were, in the time of Charles II., generally conveyed from place to place by waggons. In the straw of these vehicles nestled a crowd of passengers who could not afford to travel by coach or on horseback, and who were prevented by infirmity or the weight of their luggage from going on foot.

6. On by-roads, and generally throughout the country north of York and west of Exeter, goods were carried by long trains of pack-horses. These strong and patient beasts were attended by a class of men who seem to have borne some resemblance to the Spanish muleteers. A traveller of humble condition often found it convenient to perform a journey mounted on a pack-saddle, between two baskets, under the care of these hardy guides. The expense of this mode of conveyance was small. But the caravans moved at a foot's pace; and in the winter the cold was often insupportable.

7. The rich commonly travelled in their carriages with at least four horses. A coach and six is in our time never seen, except as part of a pageant. The frequent mention, therefore, of such equipages in old books is apt to mislead us. We attribute to magnificence what was really the effect of a very disagreeable necessity. People in the time of Charles II. travelled with six horses, because with a smaller number there was great danger of sticking in the mire. Nor were even six horses always sufficient. On one occasion when a country gentleman was travelling to London, all the exertions of six beasts, two of which had been taken from the plough, could not save the family coach from being imbedded in the mire.

8. At the close of the reign of Charles II. flying coaches ran thrice a week from London to the chief towns. The ordinary day's journey was about fifty miles in summer; but in winter, when the ways were bad and the nights long, little more than thirty. The passengers, six in number, were all seated in the carriage, for accidents were so frequent that it would

have been most perilous to mount the roof. The ordinary fare was about twopence halfpenny a mile in summer, and somewhat more in winter.

9. In spite of the attractions of the flying coaches, it was still usual for men who enjoyed health and vigour, and who were not encumbered by much baggage, to perform long journeys on horseback. If the traveller wished to move expeditiously, he rode post. Fresh saddle-horses and guides were to be procured at convenient distances along all the great lines of road. In this manner, when the ways were good, it was possible to travel for a considerable time as rapidly as by any conveyance known in England till vehicles were propelled by steam.

10. Whatever might be the way in which a journey was performed, the travellers, unless they were numerous and well armed, ran considerable risk of being stopped and plundered. The mounted highwayman was to be found on every main road. The waste tracts which lay on the great roads near London were especially haunted by robbers of this class. The public authorities seem to have been at a loss how to deal with them.

1. *Vienna*. The capital city of Austria.

6. *Muletiers*. Men in charge of mules.

9. *Expeditiously*. Quickly.

60.—Social Condition and Progress under the Stuarts

1. The Stuart period includes the reign of six sovereigns and the Commonwealth, covering together

one hundred and eleven years, from A.D. 1603 to A.D. 1714. During that period considerable strides were made in the social improvements in the country, notwithstanding the political and other troubles which also existed. "

2. The population at the close of the reign of Queen Anne was about eight millions, or one-fourth of what it is at the present time. London was then, as it is in our day, the largest town. Its population was about 700,000. Bristol was the second largest port, but it had only a population of 30,000. Norwich was then the chief manufacturing town, and was about the same size as Bristol.

3. The great strides towards toleration in religious matters have already been mentioned, the period being noted for the advancement in religious liberty, gained often at the expense of the lives and liberties of those who believed in toleration. The persecutions of the Duke of Alva in the Spanish Netherlands, and the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in France, both ended in benefit to the English people. For the craftsmen from Holland brought with them the art of weaving cloth and hose, and the French refugees introduced the industry of silk-weaving. The persecutions in this country also remarkably helped to further trade and commerce, for the persecuted went chiefly to our possessions in America, and trade was largely developed with them in after-years.

4. At the death of Queen Elizabeth the navy only numbered some thirteen ships of about 9000 tons burthen. This developed, till at the close of the reign of Queen Anne the ships of the navy were capable of carrying nearly 50,000 tons. The ships of the mer-

chant service had increased in like proportion. The chief places to which the ships sailed were India under the East India Company, from Newcastle to London carrying coals, and to West Africa and the American colonies and plantations.

5. During this period the rate of interest on borrowed money was reduced from ten to six per cent, the result being greater enterprise in commercial matters. Travelling became more easy. The pack-horse and the waggon were giving way to the flying coach and the hackney carriage. Letter-writing became more common, the work of the post-office in the period increasing twenty-fold. Wealth accumulated, but at the same time the number of idle poor increased also.

6. The poor's rate became a burden, and as the people had not found a remedy for the distress caused by so many unemployed people, except that of the poor's rate, a severe law was enacted enabling any two magistrates forcibly to send a stranger in a district back to the place from whence he came, unless he could show that he was not a vagabond, or that he rented a place worth £10 a year. By this Act, which remained in force more than a century, the poor people were prevented from going to those places where employment might perhaps have been found for them, and were practically confined to the places where they were born.

7. It became a practice in some of the ports to transport their felons to the American plantations; and in Bristol the persons accused of petty thefts, and the vagrants, were likewise despatched in this fashion.

8. The dress of the well-to-do people underwent

numerous changes, according to the character of the prevailing government. In the reign of Charles II. it was even more gay than in that of his father. In the early part of his reign the men wore a high-crowned hat with plumes, a short-waisted doublet, and flounced breeches of great width, adorned with ribbons and tied above the knees. Afterwards the high hat gave place to a low-crowned beaver hat, covered with feathers. With this was worn a long coat with sleeves coming only to the elbow. The waistcoat was long enough almost to reach to the knees, and round the neck was worn a cravat. The women wore low dresses of rich material, and plentifully adorned themselves with jewels. In Queen Anne's reign hooped petticoats were worn.

9. Most of the people worked on the land; for although manufactures and trade and commerce were giving occupation to more people than formerly, agriculture was still the main occupation. Ale was the chief beverage. Tea was not much used till the reign of Anne. Coffee was becoming generally used. Coffee-houses were a peculiar feature of the period. To them the people went to get the news of the day. The newspapers were few in number, small in size, and were published only once or twice a week. The country gentry obtained their knowledge of town affairs from the *News-letter*, sent to them at intervals by a man in town whom they had appointed for the purpose.

10. Towns were ill-paved, and only lighted by oil-lamps hung on lines stretched across the street, if lighted at all. The streets at night were paraded by gangs of wild youths who attacked belated passengers,

wrenched off door-knockers, or upset the old watchmen who were supposed to attend to the welfare of the public.

11. Only a small proportion of the people could read and write, although the latter part of the period was rendered famous by its distinguished literary characters. In the country the clergy were poorly paid. They farmed the glebe land for themselves, and, if possessed of families, their daughters were often sent out to service to earn a livelihood.

3. *Great strides.* The quick advance.

6. *Vagabond.* A worthless fellow.

7. *Felon.* A convicted criminal.

8. *Cravat.* A tie or lace ornament for the throat.

THE CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF PARLIAMENT

1.—The Witan ; and the Great Council

1. It will now be a good thing to read a little more in detail about the Assembly whose name we have so often come across in this book. But to understand properly what is meant by Parliament, we must think not only of what it was during the time of the Stuarts, but also how it grew up, from small beginnings, in the ages before them.

2. You will remember it was said in the book for Standard III. that the Saxons, when they first came over to Britain and founded their various kingdoms,

had a council in each, called the Witenagemot, or the Assembly of the Wise Men, and that when the kingdoms were united, there was a Witan, or Great Assembly, for the whole nation. From the very earliest times that we know of, there has always been a difference in rank between the people who go to make up a tribe or nation. These differences existed among the Saxons—there were the principal people, either the Wise Men or the leading soldiers; the ordinary freemen, who had land of their own; and the slaves.

3. Some people nowadays think that the Witan was composed of all the freemen; that is to say, that any man possessing land of his own was entitled to attend its meetings. But others think that only persons of superior rank belonged to it; and though it seems impossible to decide this question after so many centuries, the latter theory is probably the more correct. At any rate, if all the freemen were entitled to attend, they did not do so; owing perhaps to the difficulties of travelling, and to the demand that would be made upon their time.

4. At any rate, the great Assembly existed; and, to a certain extent, was led by the Kings. This state of things went on until the Norman Conquest, when William the Conqueror made many important changes in England; an especially important one being his alteration of the character of the Assembly.

5. In the first place, William brought the Feudal system into England; which means, among other things, that he took the whole of the country for his own, and gave out portions of it, in great estates, to those warriors who had helped him in the Conquest,

or who promised to supply him with soldiers when he wanted them in the future.

6. The Assembly, therefore, ceased to consist of leading men or freemen. It was now attended only by those who held their land from the King, and were called tenants-in-chief; and nobody else had any right to be present. The name, too, was altered. It was not called the Witan; but the Great Council.

7. The nation, however, was growing very fast; and there soon came to be so many tenants-in-chief, that it was not possible for them all to be present at the meetings. Therefore, just as had happened in Anglo-Saxon times, it was the principal people who attended the ordinary meetings. The whole body of tenants-in-chief might sometimes appear, but not unless it was a very special occasion. The Great Council met two or three times every year; at such places as might happen to be most convenient.

1. *In detail.* Giving all particulars.

3. *Theory.* A suggestion or speculation.

2.—The Beginning of Representation

1. So far, whether in the Witan or in the Council, the persons who were present had only come for *themselves*; and therefore, if an ordinary tenant-in-chief did not appear, he could have no voice whatever in the management of affairs. So the idea slowly grew up that it would be a very good thing to send one man who should be specially chosen to *represent* several of those tenants who were not able to be present themselves; and this chosen person would

speak or vote on behalf of those who sent him up; while they would promise to be bound by any arrangement to which he might agree.

2. It is in the year 1213, two years before the signing of Magna Charta, that the first instance of Representation occurs. King John desired that the Great Council should meet at Oxford for the purpose of discussing State affairs; and at this Council he ordered that "four discreet knights" should attend from each county, who could speak and act on behalf of the other tenants-in-chief belonging to their county.

3. But when John died, his son, Henry III., was only nine years old; and therefore, for a long time, England was governed by the young King's ministers, who very often took affairs into their own hands without troubling to call the Great Council together.

4. Meanwhile, the nation still went on growing; and some other people were fast rising up who had to be represented as well as the tenants-in-chief. These were the inhabitants of the *Towns*, which had rapidly increased since the days of William the Conqueror. The people dwelling in them were merchants and tradesmen, who were amassing considerable sums of money, and who, therefore, had to be called upon to contribute something towards the expenses of the nation.

5. Consequently, in 1265, not only were two knights summoned from every shire; but two citizens were ordered to attend from each city, and two burgesses from each borough. This innovation was brought about by Simon de Montfort; and it was one that in the end cost him his life. For the magnates

and tenants-in-chief did not think it necessary to consult the mercantile classes; and in consequence took away their support from De Montfort, with whom, so far, they had been siding against the King.

• 6. But when the system had once been started, it could not well be undone; though for thirty years longer it did not make much progress. In 1295, however, an Assembly, known as the Model Parliament, met at Westminster, in which all classes of the community were represented; and ever since then the same plan has been followed—the magnates, or great men of the realm, attending personally; the knights of the shire, or county members, representing the bulk of the people who dwelt in the country; and the borough members representing the trading interests of the towns.

7. By these changes the numbers of the Great Council were enormously increased, until the body became too unwieldy to sit together. Besides which, the citizens and burgesses were not at ease in the presence of the great lords. A feeling that there should be a further change grew slowly during the years after the Model Parliament, until about 1327, in the reign of Edward III., it was definitely made; and Parliament, instead of sitting in one large assembly, divided into two.

8. The first came to be called the House of Lords, and consisted of the magnates who were of sufficient importance to be summoned personally. The second was known as the House of Commons, and was made up of the knights of the shire who *represented* the rest of the people of their shire, and of the citizens and burgesses who *represented* the people of the towns.

The House of Lords was, therefore, almost identically the same as the Anglo-Saxon Witan and the Norman Council. The House of Commons was the new body which had been brought about by reason of the growth of the nation.

9. It is interesting to notice that when Parliament divided into two houses, the knights of the shire consented to sit with the citizens and burgesses. As they were the representatives of the old tenants-in-chief they would have been quite entitled to join the Upper House. But it was felt that the citizens and burgesses alone were not of sufficient weight or influence to form a chamber by themselves. Had they done so, their Assembly would always have been subservient to the superior Assembly. But the presence among them of persons of better rank gave their Assembly at once a standing and an importance it could not otherwise have possessed.

2. *Discreet.* Wise and prudent. A man who will not betray secrets.

4. *Amassing.* Heaping up, accumulating.

5. *Innovation.* New arrangement.

Magnates. The great or important persons in the realm.

Mercantile. Connected with trade or business.

6. *System.* An orderly method of proceeding.

Parliament. This name was first applied to the Council in the year 1246. It comes from a French word, *parler*, which means to talk.

7. *Unwieldy.* Awkward or unmanageable on account of size.

9. *Subservient to.* Under the control of.

3.—The Crown

1. Such, then, is the way in which Parliament has grown. It began by being an Assembly of Wise

Men; and then came to be presided over and led by the chief who was at the head of the nation. These things have given to us nowadays the Crown and the House of Lords. As the people have increased in numbers it has been impossible for all to attend, and so the idea of representation has crept in; first of all, one or two tenants-in-chief representing the rest of the tenants-in-chief; then a few citizens and burgesses representing the inhabitants of the cities and towns. This has given to us the House of Commons.

2. But it is very important to remember that Parliament consists of these *three* parts, Crown, Lords, and Commons; because we may be led to think that Parliament means the House of Commons alone. The House of Commons, however, is only one part of Parliament, and it is the youngest of the three; the Crown and Lords having existed long before it was first devised. None of these three parts of Parliament can do anything which shall become law without the consent of the other two; their powers are therefore called *co-ordinate*, which means that one part cannot ignore the existence of the others.

3. The broad principles upon which Parliament is constituted have not been altered for six hundred years, that is since the Model Parliament of 1295; but there have, during this long time, been necessarily many changes in details. We cannot read here of all these changes; because to go through them would mean the study of nearly the whole of English Constitutional History; and it is better to know clearly what the present state of things is, than to spend a long time in reading of what, at different periods, they may have been. Let us, therefore, take the three

parts of Parliament as they are now, and see how they are constituted, and what they do; and then we shall have some idea of the way in which we are governed.

4. First of all, as to the Crown. In some countries, only a man can rule; but in England, as you know, we may have either a King or a Queen. There were two Queens, as you will remember, among the Tudors, Mary and Elizabeth; and two among the Stuarts, Mary II. and Anne; while we have been ruled for the last fifty-five years by Queen Victoria, one of the best constitutional sovereigns this country has ever known.

5. In early times, however, the succession of Kings and Queens was by no means settled; and often could not be arranged without much shedding of blood. Under the Anglo-Saxons, the Witan had the power of declaring who should be King; a power which Parliament has carefully preserved to this day. But the Witan generally chose the Kings from the chief family in the land; giving preference to the eldest son of the late King, provided he was old enough to rule.

6. In the same way, under the Normans, the King was chosen by the Council; and it was not until the time of Edward I. that the principle was established that the eldest son should succeed to his father by hereditary right. The consequence of this was that minors, or people under full age, came to be recognised as Kings upon their fathers' deaths. Instances of this occurred with Richard II., Edward V., and Edward VI. Although Parliament does not now interfere with the succession as the Witan and Great Council used to, yet, if the nation is dissatisfied

with a King, it can dismiss him from the throne; and summon a person belonging to another family to take his place. This was done in the cases of Richard II. and James II.

7. The King or Queen who holds the Crown is, as we have said, a part of Parliament; and the Lords and Commons cannot do anything without the Crown's assent. But the Crown no longer takes an active share in legislation as used to be the case, and as was absolutely necessary in rougher and more turbulent times. The Crown now acts through its Ministers, a small number of experienced men who are chosen from time to time for carrying on the government. Whatever the Ministers wish to do, has to be approved by the Crown; whatever the Crown wishes to do, has to be agreed to by the Ministers.

8. The Crown does not now propose any new laws, leaving that work to the other two parts of Parliament. But it gives or refuses consent to the laws suggested by the Lords or Commons; and nothing can become law which does not receive its consent. So well and harmoniously, however, does our system of government work, that the Royal Veto, as the refusal of consent is called, has not had to be exercised for the last 185 years.

3. *Broad.* General.

4. *Constituted.* Made up, or formed.

5. *Preference.* First choice.

6. *Hereditary.* The right of an heir to succeed to the estates, property, or titles of a deceased person.

7. *The Crown's share in legislation.* In Norman times, almost all the power was in the hands of the King, and the Council had merely to agree to what the King pro-

posed. Some privileges are still left in the hands of the Crown, and are called *Prerogatives*; but they are only now exercised by the advice of the Government. They include the powers of summoning, proroguing, and dissolving Parliament; of creating Peers; of making war or peace; of refusing assent to legislation; of pardoning offenders, and others. To *prorogue* Parliament is to suspend its sittings for a time, on the understanding that it meets again in a few months. Thus Parliament is generally prorogued from the end of each summer until the February in the following year.

Turbulent. Disorderly.

Ministers. The carrying out of legislation is now placed in the hands of the Government, which consists of a small number of men chosen by the nation from time to time from one or other of the great political parties; some of whom are members of the House of Lords, and some members of the House of Commons. They are called Ministers; and the Crown acts in accordance with their advice.

4.—The Lords

1. The House of Lords at the present day consists of a little over 500 members, and falls into two great divisions—of Lay Peers and Spiritual Peers. The latter are the two Archbishops and twenty-four of the English Bishops; the former are made up of Peers of Great Britain, some Representative Peers of Scotland and Ireland, and some Life Peers or Law Lords.

2. Of the Spiritual Peers, the Archbishops and the Bishops of London, Winchester, and Durham all hold their seats in right of their sees; the Archbishops, because they are the two highest officers of

the Church of England; the Bishop of London, because London is the capital city of the Empire; the Bishop of Winchester, because in ancient times Winchester used to be the capital of the kingdom; the Bishop of Durham, because Durham is one of the old Counties Palatine.

3. There are now thirty-two Bishops and seventeen Suffragan Bishops. Of these, the Bishop of Sodor and Man and the Suffragans never sit in the House of Lords. Out of the remaining thirty-one Bishops, twenty-four are chosen to sit, in order of seniority of consecration.

4. With regard to the Lay Peers, the Scotch Representative Peers were brought into the House of Lords by the Act of Union with Scotland of 1707. They are sixteen in number, and are chosen by the whole body of Scotch Peers at the beginning of each Parliament. Twenty-eight Irish Peers also were introduced by the Act of Union with Ireland of 1801; but they are elected for life. No other Irish Peers can sit in Parliament, unless they enter the House of Commons by being elected for a county or a borough. The Scotch Peers who are not Representative Peers can sit in the House of Lords if they have an English title as well as a Scotch one. Thus the Duke of Buccleuch is a member of the House of Lords, because he is also the Earl of Doncaster.

5. The Life Peers are Law Lords—that is, certain celebrated lawyers who are summoned to the House of Lords to assist in the Judicial business which comes before the House in its capacity of the Court of Final Appeal. In the case of other Lay Peers, their titles and dignities descend to their eldest sons, or to

their heirs, upon their death; but this does not happen in the case of the Law Lords.

6. It will therefore be seen that only the Peers of Great Britain (*i.e.* those whose peerages have been created *since* the Union with Scotland) and the Peers of England (*i.e.* those whose titles were granted in England *before* the Union) form the hereditary portion of the House. The Scotch and Irish Peers are both representative; the Archbishops, Bishops, and Law Lords do not transmit their dignities to their heirs.

7. The House of Lords is presided over by the Lord Chancellor, who is the head of the whole legal profession. His seat is upon a large red ottoman stuffed with wool, which is called the Woolsack. The Peers, when debating, do not address the Lord Chancellor; but deliver their speeches to the whole house, and begin "My Lords." A great many interesting customs are preserved in the House of Lords, which have come down from bygone times. All Peers are entitled to wear splendid robes upon State occasions, which are ornamented according to their various degrees of rank; and these robes they wear when they first attend the House to take the oath, and their seats.

2. *See.* The division of the country ruled over for Church matters by an archbishop or bishop.

County Palatine. The counties palatine were those in which, during mediæval times, the ruler of them acted precisely as a king. He had law courts of his own, and a palace. The counties palatine were always counties bordering on an enemy's country. They were Chester, Pembrokeshire, Durham, Hexhamshire (part of Northumberland), Lancaster, Kent, and the Isle of Ely.

3. *Suffragan*. A bishop considered as an assistant to his superior bishop.
5. *Court of Final Appeal*. If a person brings an action in a Court of Law, and is dissatisfied with the result, he can *appeal* to a higher Court to have the matter reconsidered. Two such appeals are possible; from the ordinary Courts to the Court of Appeal, and from the Court of Appeal to the House of Lords, which is thus called the *Final Court of Appeal*.

5.—The Commons

1. The House of Commons is now composed of 670 members, who represent either a county, a borough, or else one of the universities. They may be chosen by their fellow-countrymen from any class of people, so long as they are English male subjects, of full age, who are not peers, clergymen and ministers, bankrupts, felons, or lunatics. It is thus within the possibility of almost any boy in the land when he has grown up to become a member of Parliament.

2. The Commons are presided over by the Speaker, whom they choose at the beginning of each Parliament from among themselves. The Speaker keeps order during the debates, and settles all points of dispute that may arise. The members address their remarks to the Speaker, beginning "Sir," and cannot make reference to other members by their name, but only by mentioning the place for which they sit. The Speaker's office is one of great importance and dignity, and the holder of it ranks next to the Peerage, before all other ordinary individuals. He is therefore known as the "First Commoner in the land."

3. Members of Parliament are chosen by secret

voting on the part of the inhabitants of that place for which they wish to sit. Those inhabitants who have the privilege of voting are called electors. The members are elected all at the same time, as in the case of a General Election, when a new House of Commons has to be formed, or at any particular time when any seat happens to fall vacant by the death or resignation of the member who has been holding it.

4. Supposing a county division loses its member by death, the electors in that county will have immediately to select some one else to take his place. If only one individual offers himself, and the electors approve of him, he is "nominated" on a certain day to the Sheriff of the county, who, provided no objection is raised, presently declares that he is the member for that division. This is called being returned unopposed.

5. But there are almost always a great number of men who are anxious to get into Parliament; and usually, whenever a vacancy occurs, two or three of them go to the district, and offer themselves to the electors, each promising to do better than the others if he should be returned. One may say, perhaps, that he is a Radical, another that he is a Conservative, another that he is a Liberal.

6. Their names are then all handed in to the Sheriff upon the appointed day; but the Sheriff is not able, of course, to decide by himself which of the three shall be allowed to go to the House of Commons. The Sheriff therefore announces that so many days afterwards the electors shall give their votes for that one of the three candidates whom they may prefer. This voting duly takes place, and goes on from eight in the morning till eight at night. Then that same evening,

or sometimes on the following day, the votes are counted; and the candidate who has had the greatest number of votes given for him is declared to be the member for that division of the county.

7. The votes, since 1872, are given in the following way. A number of places called polling-stations are opened in different parts of the country. They are generally held in schoolrooms. Two or three persons, called the Presiding-officer and his clerks, sit at a table, and the electors go up to them one by one. The elector tells them his name and address, and the clerks look at a big list they have, which contains the names of all the people in that district who are entitled to vote. This list is called the register. When the clerks have satisfied themselves that the elector is the person he professes to be, the Returning-officer gives him a paper upon which the names of the different candidates are printed in large letters.

8. The elector takes the paper to the other side of the room, where a desk is fitted up, divided into compartments by wooden partitions. The elector goes into one of these compartments, and with a pencil puts a mark like a cross against the name of the candidate for whom he wishes to vote. Then he folds up the paper so that nobody can see where he has put his mark, and going back to the Presiding-officer, he drops the paper into a large box standing on the table, which is carefully locked, but which has a slit in the lid. By all these precautions his voting is kept quite secret, and nobody knows to whom he has given his vote, except himself, and such people as he may choose to tell.

9. At the end of the day the boxes which contain the voting papers are taken by the Presiding-officer.

from each polling-station, and are handed over to the Sheriff or to the Returning-officer, who opens them, and the papers inside are sorted out into heaps according to the name of the candidate for whom the vote on each has been given. The heaps are next counted; and, as was said before, the candidate who has most votes is declared member for that division. He may then go up to Westminster and take his seat in the House of Commons.

10. This is the manner, then, in which the three parts of Parliament are constituted; the Crown, by the succession of the Sovereign to the throne, or, in the case of a new dynasty, by the choice of the nation; the Lords, some by hereditary right, some by election, and some by virtue of their office; the Commons, by election alone. But the most important thing is what these parts of Parliament each have to do; and this is what we call their Function.

1. *The Universities.* Those that return members to the House of Commons are the two ancient and residential Universities in England, Oxford and Cambridge; the modern examining body, the University of London; the four Scotch Universities, St. Andrews, Aberdeen, Glasgow, and Edinburgh; and the University of Dublin.

3. *Electors.* To be an elector a man must have dwelt for twelve months in the district and have paid rates. He may be either a householder, or a lodger, or have a county vote by the possession of land worth £10 a year.

7. *Polling-Station.* So called because one vote is given for each head, or poll, of the electors.

Since 1872. Because in that year the Ballot Act was passed, by which this system was introduced. Previously to the passing of that Act all voting was open.

9. *Returning-officer.* An official appointed to superintend the whole business of an election.

6.—The Functions of Parliament (1)

1. The best way to understand what are the *Functions* of Parliament—that is, the share of work that each of the three parts has to do—is to follow the course of an imaginary Bill from the time of its introduction to Parliament until the moment when it becomes law.

2. Supposing the Government decided it was necessary either to alter one of the laws of the land, or to create a new law, a document would be drawn up setting out in careful precise language the nature of the change which it was proposed to make. This document would be called a Bill, and would be introduced into the House of Commons, and read aloud to the assembly for the first time.

3. A proposal, known as a motion, is then made that after a short interval it be read a second time; and if this is agreed to, it is discussed and debated upon, sentence by sentence, in what is known as a Committee of the whole House. When this process has been gone through, any alterations suggested by the Committee are considered by the House itself; and if they are agreed to, the Bill is read for the third time, and passed, and then is sent to the other House. Here the same process of three readings and Committee is gone through; and if the two Houses do not at first agree upon any point in the Bill, the points of difference are drawn up on paper, and are again carefully considered.

4. If they cannot agree at all the Bill is dropped—that is, it is not proceeded with any more. When

they do agree, the Bill is then sent on to the Crown, and has to receive the Royal assent; for until this is given it cannot become law. Thus each of the three parts of Parliament has very important work to do in connection with every Bill.

5. We have suggested for this imaginary Bill that it was first introduced into the Commons, and then sent to the Lords; but it might also have been begun in the Lords, and then sent to the Commons; for all Bills may first appear in either of the Houses, except two kinds—those relating to Money, which must originate in the Commons; and those relating to the Peerage, which must originate in the Lords.

6. Now we should try to realise the share of work which is done by each of the three parts of Parliament. First of all, we must remember that both the Houses are large in number, there being something over 530 of the Lords, and 670 of the Commons. It is, of course, impossible that all these people can take an active share in carrying on discussions, because to do so satisfactorily requires two things—firstly, that the men should have a real practical knowledge of the matters that are being talked about; and secondly, that they should be able to speak well and clearly when they want to express their opinions.

7. But the matters which Parliament has to consider are so many and often so difficult, that it is impossible to expect many individuals to have a sound knowledge of them all; unless, indeed, they have given their whole lives to the study of politics, and have been in positions which enable them to gain wide experience of many things. So it comes about that the real talking or debating in Parliament is done

by a comparatively small number of the people who sit there—perhaps 150 or so in each House. The remainder of the members, however, even if they do not talk, have another important duty, to fulfil, and that is the giving of their votes when a division occurs.

8. In doing this, they generally follow the leaders of the party to which they belong; and they are wise to do so, because the leaders, that is to say the really prominent men in Parliament, include among them people who are specialists upon every subject that is likely to come before the Houses.

3. *Committee of the whole House.* This consists of the members of the House, but is presided over by a different chairman. There is greater freedom of debate in Committee. During sittings of the House, a member may only speak once on a motion. In Committee, he may speak as often as he likes.

8. *Specialist.* A man with particular and minute knowledge of a subject.

7.—The Functions of Parliament (2)

1. Although, as has been said above, Bills may be first brought in in either House, as a matter of fact, the great majority of them are begun in the Commons. This is because the House of Commons is that which represents the mass of the people; and as legislation is made for the benefit of the people and the nation, at large, it is thought right that the opinion of those who speak and vote for them should be consulted first.

2. But the practice has put upon the House of

Lords a duty which it originally was not called upon to exercise to so great an extent; and that is, that it acts emphatically as a Deliberative Chamber, and weighs and considers carefully the proposals for legislation which come from the Lower House. In this capacity it has been of incalculable service to the nation. We have said that in the House of Commons there are a number of members (though few in proportion to the whole body) who have given all their lives to the work of politics, and have studied them as minutely and carefully as a doctor has to study the science of medicine, or a lawyer the science of law. This applies with even greater force to the House of Lords; and this is what makes its deliberative power so strong.

3. Proposals are often made to the House of Commons which are hasty or ill-judged; and Bills may perhaps be framed on such proposals which, if carried into law, would act harmfully upon the country, and do more evil than good. In such cases, the Lords can give a check which could be afforded in no other way. If the proposed legislation is thoroughly bad, they can stop it altogether; if it is good in its principles, but faulty or unfair in its details, they will point out what is wrong, or supply such further matter as may be needed.

4. But it must be remembered that the Lords never stand absolutely in the path of the nation. As they themselves are a portion of it, so they are interested in the passing of good laws; and if they see that a measure is absolutely necessary for the welfare of the State, and is sincerely desired by the bulk of the people, they will always withdraw any

opposition } which at first they may have made to it.

5. Hence their veto is not an *Absolute*, but a *Suspensive* veto; the judicious exercise of which will often save a nation from much danger and harm. But our Constitution has provided for almost every possible emergency; and a plan has been devised of making use of the Crown's prerogatives, by which the consent of the House of Lords can always be secured. This is by the power which the Sovereign has of creating new Peers; so that a majority in the Lords, adverse to any measure desired by the nation, could be overcome by sending to the House some fresh Peers, who would vote in favour of it.

6. But just as we said above, that the last and highest veto of all, the Royal Veto, had not been exercised for 185 years, so in the same way, a creation of new lords has not been needed for 177 years. It came about during those events of history of which you have read in this book. At the end of the War of the Spanish Succession, the country was exhausted with the long struggle. The Whigs, however, desired that the campaigns should be continued; while the Tories were anxious to arrange a peace. The Treaty of Utrecht was proposed in 1713, by which the war could be brought to an end; but the Whig opposition to this Treaty was so great that Queen Anne had to create twelve Tory Peers to carry it through the Lords, and relieve the country.

7. When we speak or read of Parliament, then, we must be careful to remember that it consists of three parts—Crown, Lords, and Commons. Legisla-

tion can be begun in either of the Assemblies ; but is generally set on foot in the Commons. This puts upon the Lords the most important function of acting as Deliberative or Critical Chamber ; and thus the dangers of hurried or partisan legislation are often avoided. Both the Suspensive Veto of the Lords and the Direct Veto of the Crown are, however, exercised in accordance with the wishes of the nation ; and secure that no law shall be made in our land without due precautions having been taken.

- ' 2. *Incalculable.* That which cannot be estimated too highly.
- 4. *Bulk.* The greater number. '
- 5. *Emergency.* An event which emerges, or rises out of other events.
- 7. *Partisan.* Unfair, because only taking into account the interests of one side.

SUMMARIES .

1. England at the beginning of the Seventeenth Century

1. It is important to realise the great difference between England as it is to-day, and as it was when James I. came to the throne. The population is four times as great, and means of communication have vastly increased.

2. There were then hardly any manufactures, and our colonial empire had not begun to exist.

3. The sovereigns, during the Tudor times, were virtually despots, and the people had very little share in the government. Nowadays, they have a large share.

4. The history of the Stuart period is, therefore, the history of the way in which the people have been admitted to join in the task of governing.

2. The Hampton Court Conference and the Gunpowder Plot

1. James I., the great-grandson of Margaret, sister to Henry VIII., came to the throne upon the death of Elizabeth. He had already been King of Scotland for some years, and had there been brought up in the Presbyterian religion.

2. Several plots were directed against him when he arrived in this country, the chief of them being the *Main Plot*, the *Bye Plot*, and the *Gunpowder Plot*. They were, however, all unsuccessful.

3. James had come to cordially dislike Presbyterianism, and for some years past had been in favour of Episcopacy. But on his accession, the Puritan party still thought he would help them, and presented to him a statement of their grievances, called the *Millenary Petition*.

4. James disapproved of such a petition, and attempted to put matters right by holding a Conference at Hampton Court, between the leading men of the Established Church on one side, and of the Puritan party on the other. But the Conference resulted in nothing.

3. Quarrels with Parliament

1. The discovery of the plots against the King had made Parliament inclined to take his part, but they very soon fell out in consequence of the applications for money which James was constantly making.

2. These applications were necessary, because James had a great deal of trouble with Ireland, for a kind of revolt on the part of some of the native princes had compelled him to keep a large army there.

3. James continued to demand certain taxes upon exports and imports, but Parliament was unwilling to allow them, and called them *Impositions*. James consequently dissolved Parliament, and the great struggle of the Stuart period began.

4. James, so far, had been more or less guided by Cecil, the famous minister of Elizabeth, but Cecil died about this time, and the King was left with a free hand.

4. The Struggle for Power

1. James attempted to rule by means of his favourites, a succession of men who were not conspicuous for their merits.

2. The first was a Scotch page, named Robert Carr, who was made the Earl of Somerset, by whose advice another Parliament was called, which only lasted a few weeks, and passed no laws. It was consequently called the *Addled Parliament*.

3. For the next seven years James reigned alone, and proceeded in a long course of ill-advised acts. He got money from his subjects in every way possible, especially by loans, fines, and fees, which had to be paid upon the receiving of dignities.

4. But his most unwise action was an attempt to interfere with the decisions of the judges, and to make them entirely dependent upon his will.

6. Buckingham and the Spanish Marriage

1. When Somerset was eventually disgraced, his place as favourite was taken by George Villiers, who was speedily created Duke of Buckingham. He was a man of stronger character than Somerset, but was only anxious to further his own interests.

2. Considerable trouble came about with Spain. James wanted to marry his eldest son to a princess of that country; but as the Spaniards

were staunch Roman Catholics, the project was very unpopular in England.

3. An attempt was made to provoke a rupture with Spain by means of an attack upon America. The suggestion came from Raleigh, and he took part in the expedition. It was, however, unsuccessful, and Raleigh was executed to appease the King of Spain.

4. Negotiations for the Spanish marriage still continued, and Prince Charles himself visited Spain privately. But in the end an open quarrel took place between the two countries, and Buckingham insisted upon sending troops abroad to fight the Spaniards, an expedition which resulted in such disaster that it caused the death of James.

8. The Men of the "Mayflower"

1. When the Puritans found that they would gain nothing by the Hampton Court Conference, a number of them moved over to Holland, where they settled for nine years in Leyden; but then, growing restless, thought it better to seek a new home across the sea.

2. They engaged two vessels, the *Speedwell* and the *Mayflower*; but the former proving unseaworthy, the latter had to cross the Atlantic alone.

3. After many perils and privations, they landed near Cape Cod in December 1620, and gave to the spot of their first settlement the name of New Plymouth.

9. Francis Bacon

1. The life of Francis Bacon, Lord St. Albans, falls partly in the Elizabethan period and partly in the time of the Stuarts. He was born in 1561, but attained his highest dignities under James I.

2. Bacon entered Parliament at the age of thirty-two. He opposed the grant of subsidies to the Crown, but afterwards withdrew his opposition, and made an ungrateful return to the Earl of Essex, who had showed him considerable kindness.

3. James I., in 1619, created him Lord High Chancellor, but Bacon could not regulate his conduct satisfactorily. He was found guilty of accepting bribes from the suitors whose cases were heard before him, and was consequently dismissed from his high office with disgrace.

4. Bacon is more interesting as a philosopher than as a politician or lawyer. His writings are very famous, and will never be forgotten.

10. Sir Thomas Darnel and the Forced Loan

1. Charles I. succeeded to his father, and from the beginning of his reign was embroiled in troubles with the Parliament. Many of its members belonged to the so-called "Country Party," who were resolved to do all they could to thwart the King.

2. Only a fifth of the money which Charles needed was granted to him, and a movement was set on foot for an inquiry into the conduct of Buckingham.

3. This led to the dismissal of both the First and Second Parliaments, and then, as Charles could not do anything without money, he exacted a Forced Loan from the nation, which a certain Sir Thomas Darnel and four others refused to pay.

4. The five men were at once imprisoned, and then Charles summoned his Third Parliament, to see if he could get any grant from them now. But they first of all required that he should sign a document called the Petition of Right.

11. The Petition of Right

1. There are three great compacts between the Crown and the people which have to be remembered in reading English history. The first of these is *Magna Charta*, 1215; the second, the *Petition of Right*, 1628; the third, the *Bill of Rights*, 1689.

2. The Petition of Right laid down four points—that there should be no more arbitrary imprisonments, forced loans, or martial law, and that soldiers should not be billeted upon private households.

3. Charles agreed to the petition, and Parliament granted him the money he asked for. But immediately afterwards Buckingham was assassinated, and in the second session of the Parliament most unruly and disgraceful scenes occurred.

4. Charles gave orders that the Commons should adjourn, and when the Speaker rose to go, he was held down in his seat by main force. Charles consequently dissolved the Parliament altogether, and ruled without one for eleven years.

12. Sir John Eliot

1. Sir John Eliot was one of the most determined opponents of the King. He was the mover of the motion which had led to the assault upon the Speaker; and for the part which he had taken in this and several other matters he was sentenced to imprisonment in the Tower.

2. Here he was confined for the rest of his life ; but, being allowed writing materials, he corresponded largely with Hampden, another prominent member of the Country party, and also wrote a treatise upon Government.

3. He died in 1632, and was buried in the Tower church.

13. Absolute Government

1. Charles was assisted in the work of government by Sir Thomas Wentworth, afterwards Earl of Strafford, and Archbishop Laud. Wentworth was put in command of the North of England, and afterwards of Ireland, both of which he governed with extreme rigour. Laud was a High Churchman, and was detested by the Puritans.

2. Charles adopted many plans for getting money, chief among them being the revival of an ancient tax, called *Ship Money*. As in the case of the previous Forced Loans, however, some people refused to pay—John Hampden, the friend of Sir John Eliot, being arrested and tried in consequence.

3. The method which Charles and his advisers adopted was to make use of a court of law, known as the *Star Chamber*, which had been instituted under Edward III., and revived and enlarged under the Tudors.

4. By means of this for secular cases, and by the Court of High Commission for ecclesiastical cases, the King obtained complete control over the country.

14. Troubles with Scotland

1. Charles wished to carry out what his father had attempted, namely, the introduction of Episcopacy into Scotland. But the Scotch resented this, and renewed a *Solemn Covenant*, which had been instituted in the reign of Elizabeth, the purpose of which was to support Presbyterianism.

2. This led to an army being raised to march against Scotland, but having got as far as Berwick, Charles found it wiser to enter into negotiations, and there agreed to call another Parliament.

3. When this Parliament met, however, it was still in opposition to the King, and so was dissolved in the course of three weeks, while the Scots army invaded England, and took Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

4. Wentworth had to retreat to York, and there Charles agreed to call another Parliament, which met in 1640, and lasted for twenty years. It is consequently known as the Long Parliament, and at the beginning of its existence it passed a number of useful measures.

15. The Death of Strafford

1. The Long Parliament as quickly as possible took vengeance on those whom it considered as the evil counsellors of the King. Laud and Strafford were both imprisoned, and the latter was impeached.

2. Charles tried hard to save him, but great pressure was brought to bear, and a popular rising was threatened. Charles, therefore, unwillingly assented to the impeachment, and Strafford was beheaded in 1641.

3. Laud was kept in prison by the Parliament for two years and a half without a trial, and all his property was confiscated. He, too, was beheaded in 1643.

16. The Arrest of the Five Members

1. To add to the other troubles of the time, a fierce rebellion took place in Ireland. The Puritan party attributed all these evils to the influence of the Roman Catholics, and stated their views in a *Grand Remonstrance* addressed to the King.

2. Soon after, Charles found that some members of the House of Commons had invited the Scots to invade England, and when Parliament refused to give them up, Charles, by a great error of judgment, attempted to arrest them by means of an armed force in Parliament itself.

3. This brought the long quarrel between the King and the House of Commons to a climax. Charles went down to the North, and then to the Midlands, where, at Nottingham, he raised his standard, and this was taken as a declaration of war.

4. The country divided into two great parties—those who were on the King's side being known as *Cavaliers*, from a word which means a horseman, or cavalry soldier; while the partisans of the Commons were called *Roundheads*, from their curious custom of cropping their hair close to their heads.

17. The First Civil War

1. A battle fought at Edgehill, in Warwickshire, resulted in a victory for the King. The Roundheads were not able to stand against the Royalist cavalry, which was led by Prince Rupert, a nephew of Charles.

2. The King then advanced upon London, and had he been strong enough to take it, the war would probably have come to an end at

once. But the Trained Bands marched out from the city, and compelled him to retire.

3. Charles then made his headquarters at Oxford. Hampden received a fatal wound at Chalgrove Field, and the Roundheads won some successes in the East of England.

4. Then the Parliament made a compact with the Scots, the result being that they received large reinforcements, and inflicted a terrible defeat upon the Royalists at Marston Moor, near York. Oliver Cromwell, who had steadily come to the front during the campaign, helped the Parliamentary army to develop their horsemen, the result being that Charles was again defeated at Naseby, and in 1646 surrendered to the Scots.

18. John Hampden

1. Hampden was born in 1594, and succeeded at an early age to large and valuable estates in Buckinghamshire. He was educated at Magdalen College, Oxford, and entered Parliament when he was twenty-five years old.

2. During the reign of James I., Hampden took little part in public affairs, but he became notorious by reason of his refusal to contribute to the forced loans demanded by Charles.

3. For this action he was imprisoned, and on his release lived quietly as a country gentleman for some time. But the proposal to levy Ship Money brought him once more into notice, and his trial made him known all over England.

4. He was retained as a member of the Long Parliament, and, on the outbreak of the war, took a very prominent part in it. He was mortally wounded at Chalgrove Field, and died five days after the skirmish.

19. The Second Civil War

1. A period of great confusion followed the battle of Naseby. The King was surrendered to the Parliamentary army by the Scots, and was lodged for a time at Holmby House, in Northamptonshire.

2. He endeavoured to make arrangements with the Scots to fight on his side, and then sought to secure the help of foreign troops. At last the Scots did cross the Border on his behalf, and this led to the Second Civil War.

3. It ended disastrously for the Royalists, and Charles himself was seized by the Parliamentary army. By a series of violent measures, the chief of which was that known as *Pride's Purge*, the House of

Commons was cleared of all those who might be in any way favourable to the King.

4. The remainder, who were all his bitter enemies, then declared that it was in their power to bring the King to trial.

20. The Trial and Execution of Charles

1. In January, 1649, Charles was brought before a tribunal appointed by the Rump. One hundred and thirty-five members were supposed to belong to it, but only sixty-three would take any part in the proceedings. The great Parliamentary general, Fairfax, was among those who kept away.

2. Although it was illegally constituted, this tribunal took upon itself to condemn the King to death, and being backed up by the power of the army, was able to cause the sentence to be carried out.

3. The King was beheaded outside Whitehall Palace on 30th January 1649.

22. The Establishment of a Republic

1. The King being put out of the way, the Parliamentary party set to work to establish a Republic. They declared that no one else should be king, and that the House of Lords should no longer exist. Then a Council of thirty-eight members was appointed to carry on the government.

2. The Council soon proved itself more arbitrary than the King, and the taxes were enormously increased. A rebellion broke out in Ireland, which Cromwell put down with brutal severity, and then, turning against the Scots, defeated them at Dunbar.

3. The Prince of Wales had been proclaimed as Charles II., but his forces also were defeated at Worcester, and very soon afterwards the Republican party was triumphant both in Great Britain and Ireland.

23. The Adventures of Charles II.

1. Before Charles II. could return to take the Crown, he had had to go through many strange and often disagreeable adventures; for the Republicans sought for him far and wide, and his life was frequently in imminent danger.

2. At one time he hid in an oak-tree, while the soldiers sent in

pursuit of him rode by underneath. At another, he made his way across the country disguised as a farm-servant.

3. Then arrangements were made that a vessel should take him from Lyme, but the captain's wife prevented her husband from setting sail. In the end, when Charles did come safely to the throne, he declared that nothing should induce him to start on his travels again.

24. John Milton

1. Milton, the most famous English poet after Shakespere, was born in 1606, and, in the establishment of the Republic, acted as Secretary to the Council.

2. His early poems were distinguished by their exquisite grace and beauty, and he looked forward to a life of purely literary undertakings; but the political excitements of the time made him think he ought to devote himself to public affairs, which he did with such assiduity that his constant writing cost him his sight.

3. In his later years, he solaced his blindness by composing the most famous epic poem in the language, *Paradise Lost*. It is in this great poem especially that he shows himself to be above all things the exponent of the Puritan spirit.

25. Cromwell as Lord Protector

1. The army of the Republic found it was still somewhat hampered by the existence of the Rump Parliament. Cromwell, therefore, did not scruple to go down once more to the House of Commons with an armed force, and to turn away all the members. Then he did the same thing to the Council, and remained master of the situation.

2. Another Parliament was called together, but in five months it resigned its powers into Cromwell's hands; and then a council of officers proposed that he should be appointed *Lord Protector*, to which he agreed; so that in less than five years from King Charles's execution, the country was again in the power of one man.

3. Cromwell divided England into twelve military districts, each of which was ruled by a major-general according to martial law. But this did not please the Parliament, which, when it met again in 1656, demanded that the major-generals should be withdrawn. Cromwell accordingly dissolved the Parliament, and ruled absolutely until his death two years afterwards.

26. Cromwell's Policy, and the Results of the Rebellion

1. Cromwell was in many respects a good ruler, though the result of his work did not last long. He helped on trade and education, and founded our West Indian colonies.

2. But the alliance which he made with France aided the growing strength of Louis XIV., who, a few years later, became our bitterest enemy, and one with whom we were at war all through the reigns of William III. and Anne.

3. England, however, was by no means happy under Cromwell's government. People felt that the Rebellion had only substituted one despotism for another.

4. The consequence was, that on Cromwell's death, his son Richard having proved himself absolutely incapable of governing, Charles II. was welcomed back with delight, and things went on almost as they had been before in 1649. The Monarchy, however, was a limited or constitutional Monarchy, and the nation had a great dread of any person with extreme views.

27. The Emigrants in the Bermudas

1. The Bermudas were taken possession of by Sir George Somers, an English admiral, on behalf of the Crown, in the year 1609.

2. Settlers quickly went out to them; some attracted by the delightful climate, some on account of religious persecutions, and some being sent out by Government to assist in turning them into a naval and military station.

3. It is in the latter capacity that they are now chiefly known.

28. After the Restoration

1. During the Republic, Church matters had got into a very confused state, and the first Parliament of Charles II. attempted to put things right.

2. Charles had promised liberty of conscience to all his subjects, but Parliament aimed a blow at Presbyterianism by passing the *Corporation Act*, the *Act of Uniformity*, the *Conventicle Act*, and the *Five Mile Act*.

3. These Acts were generally known as the *Clarendon Code*, because they were supported by the Earl of Clarendon, Charles's minister. It

was not, however, in consequence of these that Clarendon fell from power, but on account of the mismanagement of foreign affairs.

4. A jealousy between England and Holland had been growing for some time, which culminated with a war, and with the entrance of the Dutch admiral into the Thames. The people made Clarendon the scape-goat, and he flew to France, where soon after he died.

29. John Bunyan

1. Among the Dissenters upon whom the Clarendon Code pressed hardly was John Bunyan, a travelling tinker from Bedfordshire. He was imprisoned at Bedford for twelve years, but his name would probably have been unknown now, had he not solaced his confinement time by writing his famous book, the *Pilgrim's Progress*.

2. He had originally been a wild, rough youth, the terror of his village, but a sudden conversion changed his character altogether; and from an idle and profligate life he passed to the other extreme.

3. His book is remarkable for the beauty and simplicity of its English, and for the vividness with which the different personages are drawn. Bunyan wrote many other religious works, but the *Pilgrim's Progress* stands at the head of them all. His last years were spent as a Baptist minister in Bedford. He died in 1698.

30. The Plague and the Fire

1. In the year 1663 a terrible plague broke out in London. It came to England from the Continent, and was increased by the extraordinary heat of the summer, and by the unsanitary conditions of the times.

2. London became literally a city of the dead, for over 100,000 persons perished there alone. Those who escaped the sickness fled into the country, and business was put a stop to, and grass grew in the streets.

3. Next year, a wonderful thing helped to disinfect London thoroughly. A great fire broke out in the city, and raged for three whole days with resistless fury.

4. Two-thirds of London were absolutely destroyed, but the plague spots were burnt out, and wooden houses were not allowed to be built any more. The streets were made wider, and London altogether became more healthy.

34. The Beginnings of the Cabinet

1. Upon Clarendon's fall, the chief power fell into the hands of five men, who came to be known as members of the *Cabal*. The existence of this small body gradually led to the beginning of the Cabinet system.

2. Charles made a secret treaty with the King of France, who was desirous of having a free hand in the conquest of the Netherlands; and when the Duke of York avowed himself to be a Roman Catholic, the King issued a Declaration of Indulgence, the quarrels arising over which led to the downfall of the Cabal and to the passing by Parliament of the Test Act.

3. The minister who succeeded them was Sir Thomas Osborne, Earl of Danby, a man eventually disgraced on account of his share in the negotiations with France. He was impeached, and the Parliament was dissolved after sitting for seventeen years and a half.

35. The Quarrels over the Exclusion Bill

1. An *Exclusion Bill* was brought into the next Parliament, the object of which was to keep the Duke of York from succeeding to the throne, on the ground that he was a Roman Catholic. Parliament was dissolved after sitting for five months, but the Bill was reintroduced into the next.

2. It was again rejected, and two parties arose—those who petitioned the King to let the Bill pass, and those who objected to it altogether. These parties were called Petitioners and Abhorrrers, or, in the end, Whigs and Tories.

3. When Charles's fifth Parliament assembled, the Whigs attended with an armed force, but the nation was so much in dread of another military despotism, that the Whigs lost all chance of success at once, and the Bill was entirely rejected.

4. Shaftesbury, who had been the Whig leader, fled for his life, and died abroad. A strange plot followed, in which Monmouth, a son of the King, and others were implicated. It came to nothing, but Monmouth had to leave England. Two years afterwards Charles II. died.

37. The Habeas Corpus Act

1. In the reign of Charles II. was passed the famous *Habeas Corpus Act*, by which the liberty of the subject promised by Magna Charta was made secure to all.

2. The Act forbade all delay in the trial of an accused person, so that henceforth no one could languish in prison unheard; and it further provided that British subjects should not be transported before trial beyond the seas.

3. Charles II.'s character is a very difficult one to sum up. He was a man of great ability, with considerable capacity for ruling. He put certain definite aims before himself, and succeeded in attaining them; but he was selfish, and had not nearly so much moral principle as his brother James.

38. Monmouth's Rebellion

1. James II., although he had every intention of being a good King, in three years brought about a Revolution, and lost the Crown. He had no skill in the management of a country, and could only proceed to his ends in such a manner as turned every one against him.

2. Immediately upon his accession, he promised to observe the constitution of both Church and State, but directly afterwards ordered the Customs duties to be collected and paid over to him. This, of course, should not have been done until the grant had been passed by Parliament.

3. He was also most anxious to bring about the restoration of Roman Catholicism, and entered into negotiations with Louis XIV. of France to further this purpose.

4. But two rebellions broke out against him—one in Scotland, headed by Argyle, which was soon put an end to; the other, and more serious one, in the West of England, led by Monmouth, the son of the late King.

39. The Battle of Sedgemoor

1. Monmouth had landed in Dorset, and advanced into Somersetshire. He had a certain number of troops with him, raw, ill-disciplined levies, many armed only with pitchforks and staves.

2. The King's troops gave them battle at Sedgemoor, near Bridgewater, and hopelessly defeated them. Monmouth himself fled from the field, and was found two days afterwards hiding in a ditch, half dead with hunger.

3. He was sent up to London and executed, while a Commission of five judges went down to the West country to try those who had aided the rebellion. About 300 people were put to death, and more than

1000 were sold as slaves; others being whipped and imprisoned, or punished with heavy fines. The battle of Sedgemoor was the last battle fought on English soil.

40. The Case of Sir Edward Hales

1. James found that his attempts to restore Roman Catholicism were stopped by three things—he could not imprison people arbitrarily, or coerce his subjects to do his will, and he had no servants who would assist him in his plans. The Habeas Corpus Act prevented the first, while the absence of a standing army, and the Test Act, prevented the other two.

2. In order to proceed according to the letter of the law, he got a judicial decision in his favour. Sir Edward Hales, a Roman Catholic, was given some appointments, and did *not* fulfil the conditions of the Test Act.

3. He was accused of this default, and pleaded the special permission of the King in excuse. The plea was accepted, and by this means the judges appeared to admit that the King had the power of suspending or dispensing the law.

4. James at once availed himself of this. He entered into a conflict with the Universities, appointed Roman Catholics to posts in both Church and State, collected a standing army, and imprisoned the Bishops for offering him a petition. The Bishops were put on their trial, but the jury refused to condemn them.

41. The Bill of Rights

1. William of Orange, the son-in-law of James, had promised to interfere if affairs in England became intolerable; and after the trial of the seven bishops he began to make his preparations, and eventually landed in Devonshire in November, 1688.

2. James found that he was at once deserted by the whole of the nation, and fled to France, while William was on his way to London. A Convention assembled, and drew up a document stating all the circumstances of the case, which was called the Declaration of Right.

3. This document set forth the things which had been illegally done by James, and also proposed the terms upon which the Crown was to be offered to William.

4. William accepted these terms, and so took the Crown, and the Convention was turned into a Parliament, and the Declaration into a Bill.

42. Some Effects of the Revolution

1. By this Revolution Parliament was made the *supreme* power in the State; but it must be remembered that Parliament means the Crown, Lords, and Commons acting together.

2. Religious toleration was largely increased, though for many years it was still far from complete. The independence of the Judges, however, was secured, and the press was made free.

3. The Government was changed from a monarchical to a popular form. This had been begun by the work of the Rebellion, which was completed and made secure by the Revolution.

43. The Early Enactments of William's Reign

1. As soon as William was seated on the throne, he found himself opposed by many discontented people of all parties; and he was not a man of such personal characteristics as would help him readily to make friends. He therefore relied a good deal upon his Dutch favourites, and by doing so increased the jealousy of his new subjects.

2. One of the most important enactments of this time was the *Mutiny Act*, originally passed for the purpose of securing better discipline in the army. By it, however, permission is given to the Government to keep a standing army for the space of a year.

3. This necessitates that the Bill shall be renewed annually, and so it follows that an ample security is provided for the yearly meeting of Parliament. The Mutiny Act has thus come to possess the highest constitutional importance.

A Toleration Act, also passed by William's first Parliament, did away with the Clarendon Code.

44. The Siege of Londonderry

1. James got some assistance from the King of France, and landed in Ireland in 1689. A campaign followed in the north, where Londonderry and Enniskillen both held out for William.

2. Londonderry was besieged for a hundred and five days, and the people suffered agonies of starvation. Major Baker and a clergyman named Walker were joint-governors of the city, and conducted the defence with extraordinary gallantry.

3. At length the city was relieved by two ships, laden with provisions, and protected by a frigate, sailing up the river, and shattering the boom which had been stretched across it.

45. The Battle of the Boyne

1. James's troops were also defeated outside Enniskillen, and in 1690 William himself went over to Ireland and took command of the English troops. A battle was fought upon the banks of the river Boyne, which resulted in the total defeat of James, who fled again into France, and remained there for the rest of his life.

2. William made a triumphal entry into Dublin, and then laid siege to Limerick. But this city held out, and the siege had to be renewed in the following year.

3. At last the inhabitants surrendered, and a treaty was signed, by means of which the war was brought to a close. About 14,000 Irish soldiers crossed over to France and took service abroad; and freedom of worship was promised to the Roman Catholics. This treaty was confirmed by the English Parliament, but soon after was refused altogether by the Irish Parliament.

46. Killiecrankie and Glencoe

1. While these troubles were going on in Ireland, there were also more disturbances in Scotland. Viscount Dundee, an eager partisan of James, had roused the Highlanders against William, and a battle was fought at the head of the pass of Killiecrankie, in which, though Dundee himself was slain, the English were defeated and driven back.

2. The rebellion smouldered for a time, but was eventually put down, for the Highlanders were too disunited to be dangerous. But the rivalry between the clans led to the unhappy massacre of Glencoe, in which the whole tribe of Macdonalds fell victims to the jealousy of the Campbells.

3. The massacre was authorised by William himself; and though there is considerable doubt as to whether he really intended that it should be carried out, the whole matter rests as a great stain upon his character.

48. Graham of Claverhouse

1. John Graham of Claverhouse was born towards the close of Charles the First's reign, and after following the profession of a soldier on the continent for some years, he returned to Scotland, and

joining his kinsman, the Marquis of Montrose, was employed on the side of Charles II. in the work of the establishment of Episcopacy.

2. This drew down upon him the bitter hatred of the Covenanters, and led him into two pitched battles with them. The first of these, at Drumclog, resulted in Claverhouse's defeat; the second, fought at Bothwell Bridge, with Montrose in chief command, ended in a complete victory.

3. Claverhouse was created Viscount Dundee by James the Second, and worked hard in Scotland on James's behalf. He was slain in the battle of Killiecrankie, where his Highland troops had defeated the soldiers of William.

49. The French War

1. William's great idea in foreign politics was to counteract the power exercised on the continent by Louis XIV. of France. A war between the two countries dragged on for seven years, in which success went first to one side and then another.

2. The French won a naval battle off Beachy Head, which was made up for by the English victory off Cape La Hogue. William himself captured Namur, and peace was finally made by the Treaty of Ryswick.

3. By this treaty, William was recognised as King of England, and Louis promised that he would not give any more help to James. It was the first treaty Louis had ever signed which did not give him some increase of power.

4. The expenses of this war led to the beginning of the National Debt. A sum of money was borrowed from the nation to be repaid out of future taxation.

51. The Darien Scheme

1. In 1694 a scheme was set on foot by a Scotchman named Paterson for making a new colony at the Isthmus of Darien or Panama, in order that a fresh route might be opened between India and Europe.

2. The plan was eagerly taken up in Scotland, but was not looked upon with any favour in England. The help, therefore, which William had at first promised to it was withdrawn; and this, added to the thorough bad management of the whole undertaking, turned it into a disastrous failure.

3. The ill-feeling between England and Scotland which was created by this mishap ran very high, so much so that it was felt that the two countries must be either entirely separated or united.

4. When the union was finally arranged, a large sum was paid by England as compensation to the people who had suffered by the scheme.

52. The Act of Settlement

1. An important Act was passed during the last year of William's reign, by which the succession to the throne was finally arranged.

2. William and Mary had no children themselves, while Anne, the other daughter of James II., who married Prince George of Denmark, and had had a large family, lost all her children during their childhood, the last surviving son dying when he was fifteen.

3. The nearest to the throne by right of blood was James II., who had been deposed, and the Duchess of Savoy, a grand-daughter of Charles I. But they were both Roman Catholics, and the Revolution had taken place to secure a Protestant succession.

4. So the Act of Settlement passed them over, and settled the Crown upon the Princess Sophia of Hanover and her Protestant descendants. It is in virtue of this Act that Queen Victoria reigns at the present day.

53. The War of the Spanish Succession (1)

1. Just at the close of William's reign a fresh war broke out in Europe, caused by the disputed succession to the throne of Spain. Charles II., king of that country, was dying without an heir, and Louis of France was extremely anxious to get the country into his own hands.

2. But William knew that this would make him more powerful than ever, and so compelled him to sign certain treaties by which he promised not to attempt to seize Spain upon the death of Charles.

3. When that event took place, however, he repudiated the treaties entirely, and even went so far as to declare that the son of James II. ought to be really the King of England.

4. A Grand Alliance of nearly all Europe was formed against him, which William joined; and he was just getting ready to take part in the campaign when a fall from a horse brought about his death.

54. The War of the Spanish Succession (2)

1. The conduct of the war therefore passed into the hands of Marlborough, one of the most famous generals of all time. In four great battles he defeated the French, driving them out of Austria by the battle of Blenheim; and out of the Netherlands by the battles of Ramillies, Oudenarde, and Malplaquet.

2. The war lasted through nearly the whole of Queen Anne's reign, peace not being declared until 1713, when the Treaty of Utrecht was signed.

3. By this treaty England secured a large extension of her colonial possessions.

55. The Union with Scotland

1. During the reign of Queen Anne the Legislative Union of England and Scotland was accomplished, the same Parliament acting for both countries, instead of each having a separate assembly.

2. The arrangement was not brought about before a great deal of quarrelling had taken place; and at one time it seemed as if there would be actual war between the two countries, but wiser counsels in the end prevailed, and Scotland has benefited largely by the Union.

3. Sixteen Scotch Peers sit in the House of Lords, and sixty members in the House of Commons. The number of the latter was originally forty-five, but has since been increased.

56. Daniel De Foe

1. De Foe was born in 1661, the son of a well-to-do butcher in London. He early showed an inclination for literature, and at the age of twenty-one was busily writing pamphlets upon the political topics of the day.

2. He entered into trade in London, but was not successful, and prospered little until he obtained some Government employment.

3. Upon the death of William, his prosperity ceased. He was a fierce Whig, and as such, distasteful to the Tories. A pamphlet upon the subject of civil and religious disabilities brought him a heavy fine, and punishment.

4. His best work, however, and one which has secured him a high place in literature, is his entirely imaginative story of *Robinson Crusoe*. He died in 1731.

57. Other Events of Queen Anne's Reign

1. This reign was distinguished for the extraordinarily bitter party feeling which prevailed throughout the country. Marlborough's pride and alleged corruption had brought him many enemies, while his wife, was even still more unpopular.

2. She had been at one time a great favourite with the Queen, who was in the end wearied by her domination and insolence. The Duchess was replaced by a Mrs. Masham, a cousin of the Tory minister, Oxford, while a series of circumstances culminated in the disgrace and dismissal of Marlborough.

3. Oxford, however, was soon defeated by his rival Bolingbroke, who intrigued desperately for a return of the Jacobites upon the death of the Queen. It is even probable that his plans might have been successful, had not a quarrel in the Council so agitated the Queen that it brought on a fit of apoplexy, from which she died, and before the Jacobite party could take any steps, the Whigs had proclaimed George of Hanover as her successor.

58. "Good Queen Anne"

1. Anne herself, though not an intellectual woman, was extremely kind-hearted, good, and generous. She gave the Duke of Marlborough £2000 a year out of her private purse, because she thought Parliament had only rewarded him inadequately; and she refused to take the whole of the Royal allowance in order to lessen the weight of the general taxation.

2. She also returned, for the use of the Church, certain sums of money which had belonged to the Crown ever since the days of the Reformation.

3. Queen Anne's reign is remarkable for the expansion of our colonies, and for the increase of our trade. But it is chiefly notorious on account of the large number of famous literary men who flourished during the time. Chief among them were De Foe, Pope, Addison, Steele, and Swift.

59. Travelling in the Stuart Period

1. Communication was very scanty and difficult during the times of the Stuarts, the highways forming the chief means of getting about, and these being badly kept in themselves, and in all lonely districts infested with robbers.

2. Waggon's went about from place to place conveying heavy goods. Individuals travelled either on horseback or in flying coaches, or sometimes in their own carriages with six horses.

3. On the by-roads strings of pack-horses carried merchandise over the country, and those who could not afford the other means of conveyance were obliged to make use of them. But the delay was enormous, because they only moved at a foot's pace.

60. Social Condition under the Stuarts

1. The population at the end of the reign of Queen Anne was about eight millions, or one-fourth of what it is now. The navy, however, was steadily developing from the condition in which it was at the death of Elizabeth; and the new things which had been introduced under the Tudors were all being tried, and were settling down into their places.

2. Agriculture was the chief occupation of the people, and education was far from general. The towns were badly paved and lighted, and were seldom safe at night.

3. Newspapers were few in number, and very small in size. The dress of the people underwent many changes in the course of the 111 years of the Stuart sovereigns. The time generally was one of growth and expansion; different in its nature from the growth under the Tudors, but equally important in its effect upon the nation.

THE CONSTITUTION AND FUNCTIONS OF PARLIAMENT

1. The Witan; and the Great Council

1. In Anglo-Saxon times there was an assembly of the wise men of the nation, which was known as the *Witenagemot*. At first it did not possess any definite leader, but afterwards, as the kings increased in power, they exercised a general control over it.

2. After the Norman Conquest this assembly of wise men was changed into a feudal court attended only by the king's tenants-in-chief.

3. Then, as the nation increased in numbers, the tenants-in-chief became too numerous to attend its meetings always, and the result

was that only a few of them, comparatively speaking, took the trouble to be present, except on very special occasions indeed. The name of the assembly was altered from the *Witan* to the *Great Council*.

The Beginning of Representation

1. As so many of the tenants-in-chief hardly ever attended the Council at all, the idea slowly grew up that one or more should go from each county to speak and act on behalf of the rest who belonged to the same county.

2. This was called the system of *Representation*; and the first instance occurs in 1213. The idea was soon extended from the counties to the towns; two citizens being ordered to attend from each city, and two burgesses from each borough, at a Parliament which was held in 1265.

3. The idea, once introduced, never fell away, but went on increasing, and has lasted to the present day. The numbers attending Parliament quickly grew so large that, about 1327, it divided into two bodies. One of these became the House of Lords, i.e. the great magnates, or important people, who were almost the same as the members of the old *Witan*; the other became the House of Commons, those who were present because they *represented* their fellow-citizens.

3. The Crown

1. Parliament consists of three parts, Crown, Lords, and Commons; and the consent of the other two parts is wanted to whatever may be suggested by any one of them.

2. The Crown is in England a very important part of Parliament. In former times the Crown took a very active part in making laws, but now its function is to approve or disapprove of what may be done by Lords or Commons.

3. Formerly, too, the Crown would so approve or disapprove according to the personal likes and dislikes of the king or queen then reigning. Now the Crown assents to, or rejects legislation according to the advice of the ministers.

4. The Crown possesses many important powers, which are called *Prerogatives*; and these are also exercised in accordance with the views of the ministry.

4. The Lords

1. The House of Lords is divided into two bodies, the Lay Peers and the Spiritual Peers. The former consists of the nobles of Great Britain, sixteen representative Scotch Peers, twenty-eight Irish Peers, and a few Life Peers, who are known as Law Lords.

2. The Spiritual Peers include the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, and twenty-four of the English Bishops.

3. The House of Lords is presided over by the Lord Chancellor, who is the head of the legal profession. The assembly not only forms part of Parliament, but is also the highest Court of Law in the realm.

5. The Commons

1. The House of Commons is composed of 670 members, who represent either a county, a borough, or one of the universities. Any ordinary man of full age may be chosen as a member of Parliament, provided he is not a clergyman or minister, a bankrupt, a felon, or a lunatic.

2. The Commons are presided over by a Speaker, whom they choose from among themselves at the beginning of each Parliament. His duty is to keep order during the debates, and to settle all points of dispute as they may arise.

3. Members of Parliament are chosen by secret voting on the part of the inhabitants of that district which they wish to represent. This voting is done by means of a system known as the *Ballot*, which was first introduced in 1872. Previously to that date all voting had been open.

6. The Functions of Parliament (1)

1. When a new law is to be introduced, an account of it is carefully written out in a formal document called a *Bill*, which is then read in either of the two Houses. The only exception to this rule is that a Bill relating to the Peerage must begin in the Lords, and a Bill concerning taxation must begin in the Commons.

2. After a short interval, the Bill is read a second time, and then debated clause by clause and sentence by sentence. When it is all agreed upon, it is read a third time and passed on to the other House, where it goes through the same process.

3. If the Houses disagree entirely about it, the Bill is dropped ;

but if they do agree, it is then sent on to the Crown for the Royal Assent, without which it cannot become law. So each of the three parts of Parliament has very important work to do in connection with it.

4. As both the Lords and Commons are such large assemblies, it is impossible that every member in them can take part in the debates. As a matter of fact, about 150 in each House do the greater part of the discussion, but upon all of them falls the equally important duty of voting.

7. The Functions of Parliament (2)

1. Although Bills may be begun in either House, the great majority of them are initiated in the Commons. This practice has put upon the House of Lords an extremely important duty, which it did not at first possess—viz. the work of a *deliberative* chamber; and in this capacity it is of great service to the nation.

2. Many proposals are made in the Commons which are hasty or ill-judged, and these the House of Lords is able to check, either for a time, if they only require correction, or altogether, if they are entirely bad.

3. But the House of Lords never stands absolutely in the path of the nation. Being themselves a part of it, they are as much interested in the passing of good laws as any one else. Hence their veto is not an *absolute* but a *suspensive* veto, and has not had to be overruled by the Crown for 177 years.

4. In like manner, the veto of the Crown itself has not been exercised for 185 years. This is because the three parts of Parliament work well together, and feel deeply the responsibilities which rest upon them.

SHORT BIOGRAPHIES OF SOME OF THE FAMOUS PERSONAGES OF THE STUART PERIOD

Sir Edward Coke (Lesson 4) was one of the most famous of English judges. He was born in 1552; and became a barrister, that is, a man entitled to plead in a court of law, when he was twenty-six years old. He was appointed Speaker of the House of Commons in 1593, and became Chief-Justice of the King's Bench in 1613. He took part in the trials of the conspirators of the Gunpowder Plot. He opposed James I.'s attempts to obtain absolute power, and so lost the favour of the King, the result being that he was removed from office in 1616. He entered Parliament in 1620, and took the side against the Crown. He was largely instrumental in drawing up the Petition of Right. He died in 1632.

William Laud (Lesson 13) was born in 1573, and was educated at the University of Oxford, where he became a Fellow and afterwards Rector of his college. He was made Bishop of London in 1628, and Archbishop of Canterbury in 1633. It was chiefly through him that the Court of High Commission was used against the Puritans in England; and he also attempted to force Episcopacy upon Scotland. He was impeached by the Long Parliament at the same time as the Earl of Strafford; and, after being imprisoned for more than three years, he was beheaded on Tower Hill in 1644.

Sir Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford (Lesson 13), was born in 1593, and was educated at the University of Cambridge. He entered Parliament as member for Yorkshire in 1614; and was at first a leader on the popular side. In order to prevent his presence in Parliament, he was once made Sheriff of Yorkshire; and at another time was imprisoned for refusing to contribute to a forced loan. But in 1628 he joined with the King, who sent him over to Ireland to be

Lord-Lieutenant. Here he ruled by a system of "Thorough" government which he counselled Charles to apply to England. The Long Parliament passed a Bill of Attainder against him, and Charles was compelled to assent to his death. Strafford was executed on Tower Hill in 1641.

Thomas, Lord Fairfax (Lesson 17), was born in 1611, and became a general on the side of the Parliament. When the *Self-Denying Ordinance* was passed, Fairfax was appointed commander-in-chief, and in 1648 won the great Battle of Naseby. But he refused to have anything to do with the trial of the King; and afterwards came to terms with Charles the Second. He died in 1671.

George Monk, Duke of Albemarle (Lesson 22), was born in 1608, and followed the profession of arms from a very early age. When the Civil War broke out, he fought at first on the side of the King; but being captured in 1644, he was imprisoned in the Tower for two years, and was only set free on condition of his joining the Parliamentary army. He eventually obtained the chief command in Scotland; but was suspected of intriguing on behalf of the Stuarts; and when Richard Cromwell resigned, he entered London with 5000 men, declaring for a Free Parliament, which Parliament invited Charles II. to return. Upon the Restoration, Monk was created Duke of Albemarle. He subsequently gained a great naval victory over the Dutch in 1666; and died in 1670.

Robert Blake (Lesson 22) was born in 1598, and was educated at the University of Oxford. He entered the Long Parliament as member for Bridgewater, his native place, and sided with the Parliamentary party. In 1649 he obtained command of the fleet; and fought the Dutch vigorously and successfully from 1652 to 1654. He died at sea in 1657; but his body was brought to England.

Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon (Lesson 22) was born in 1608, and was educated at the University of Oxford. He was a member of the Long Parliament; and, fearing that the Republican party were obtaining a dangerous amount of power, he sided definitely with the Crown. He became Chancellor of the Exchequer; but at the time of Charles II.'s wanderings he went into exile as well. At the Restoration he returned, and was made Lord Chancellor. It was during this time that his strong feeling in favour of the Church led him to assist in the passing of the Acts whose object was to suppress the Nonconformists. The mismanagement of affairs in the Dutch war

made Clarendon unpopular with King and people alike ; and, on being impeached for high treason, he fled to France, where he dwelt for the remainder of his life. He occupied himself in his retreat with writing his celebrated *History of the Rebellion and Civil Wars in England*. He died in 1674. His daughter Anne married King James II.

John Dryden (Lesson 36) was born in 1631, and was educated at Westminster and Cambridge. His earlier poems were political, and generally were in favour of the party in power at the time. Thus in 1659 he produced *Heroic Stanzas* to the memory of Oliver Cromwell ; and in 1660 *Astræa Redux*, which rejoiced in the Restoration. *Abalom and Achitophel* did not appear until 1681 ; but nearly twenty years before, namely in 1663, he had begun his work as a dramatist, and in the course of his long life wrote over fifty plays. He was appointed Poet-Laureate in 1670 ; and having written a poem called *Religio Laici*, which defended the principles of the Church of England, he turned Roman Catholic soon after the accession of James II., and in 1687 issued *The Hind and the Panther*, a poem which argued in favour of the Roman Catholic Church (the hind) as against the Church of England (the panther). On the accession of William III., Dryden failed to secure the royal favour, and had to give up his Laureateship. He died in 1700.

John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough (Lesson 53), was born in 1650 ; and when he was twelve years old, became a page to the Duke of York, afterwards James II. In 1680, he married Sarah Jennings, a great favourite of James's daughter Anne. Churchill helped to put down Monmouth's rebellion ; but at the time of the Revolution he deserted James ; and it was owing to his influence and to that of his wife that the Princess Anne also left her father. William III. created him Earl of Marlborough ; and he took part in the wars abroad. But William had reason to suspect that he was still tampering with James ; and for a time imprisoned him in the Tower. When the War of the Spanish Succession broke out, he was, however, put in chief command. The campaigns of that war added enormously to his military reputation, which was already great ; but when he returned to England in 1711, he found his enemies had been busily at work, and that his power at Court was fast fading away. A charge of appropriating public money was brought against him ; and he lost all his offices. He retired abroad, where he lived until the death of Anne ; but though he subsequently returned to England, his health was not sufficiently good to enable him to continue to share in public affairs. He died in 1722.

Robert Harley, Earl of Oxford (Lesson 57), was born in 1661. He became famous for his knowledge of Parliamentary matters, and was Speaker of the House of Commons in the first Parliament of Queen Anne's reign. In 1708 he changed his political views, and turned Tory, joining St. John (Bolingbroke) in the formation of a ministry. But quarrels ensued between the two; a violent scene which took place in the Council Chamber bringing on the fit of apoplexy which hastened the death of the Queen. When George I. succeeded, Oxford was sent to the Tower for two years. He took no further part in public affairs, and died in 1724.

Henry St. John, Viscount Bolingbroke (Lesson 57), was born in 1678, and was a staunch supporter of the Stuart cause. It was largely through him that the Peace of Utrecht was brought about; and when he had got rid of Harley, he became Prime Minister, and did all he could to oppose the accession of George I. In 1715 he was obliged to leave England on account of his dealings with the Stuart party, and did not return for eight years. He vigorously opposed the Hanoverian ministers of George I., and died eventually in 1751.

Jonathan Swift (Lesson 58) was born in 1667, and was educated at Trinity College, Dublin. His grandfather married Miss Elizabeth Dryden, a cousin of the famous poet. His father was a lawyer, who had gone over to Ireland to practise; and in Ireland his mother made the acquaintance of Sir William Temple, who received Swift into his household as secretary when the latter was just twenty-one years of age. With the Temples Swift remained until 1694, when he took orders in Dublin, and obtained a small preferment. But throwing this up, he went back to Sir William Temple, and remained with him until his patron died in 1699. Upon Sir William's death, he became chaplain to Lord Berkeley, who presented him in the following year with the living of Laracor, where he stayed for about nine years. He then spent five years in England, during which time he took an active part, on the Tory side, in the politics of Queen Anne's reign; and in 1713 was appointed Dean of St. Patrick's, the cathedral in Dublin, as a reward for the great services he had rendered to his party. But on the death of Queen Anne, and the succession of the Hanoverian dynasty, any hope of further advancement was removed; and Swift remained in Ireland for a period of twelve years. It was during this time that he wrote his renowned *Gulliver's Travels*. He was in England again in 1726; but went back to Ireland on account of the illness of his wife, whose death occurred in 1728. Swift himself lived seventeen years longer; but from 1740 to 1745, his intellect gave way, and he was

obliged to be kept under restraint, with keepers perpetually watching him.

Richard Steele (Lesson 58) was born in Dublin in 1672, and was educated at the Charterhouse. He matriculated at Oxford, but did not proceed to a degree, leaving the University in four years, and enlisting in the Life Guards. Afterwards he obtained a commission in the Fusiliers, and rose to the rank of captain. It was during this time that he wrote his *Christian Hero*, a book of sound advice as to morals and conduct of life, and full of doctrine which Steele himself was quite unable to live up to. Between the years 1702 and 1705 he wrote a good deal for the stage; but his first great success began when he started the *Tatler* in 1709. To help him in this work, he invited the assistance of his old friend Addison, by whose superior power Steele's work was quickly surpassed. But Steele never showed the least envy of Addison's greater merits; and the two men, after the *Tatler* was concluded, wrote the first seven volumes of the *Spectator* together. In 1714 Steele was appointed supervisor of Drury Lane Theatre, and in 1715 received the honour of knighthood to reward him for his efforts on behalf of George I. in opposition to the great force in favour of the Stuarts, which had been led by Bolingbroke and Swift. In 1724 Sir Richard Steele retired from London, and died five years later.

Joseph Addison (Lesson 58) was born in 1672, and was educated at Oxford. When he left the University, he occupied himself for some years with travelling on the continent, and keeping up his studies and literary labours. He first came into general notice from the fact of his being employed to write a poem upon Marlborough's victory of Blenheim. This poem, called the *Campaign*, brought him great praise and reward. In 1706 he was made an Under-Secretary of State; and, eleven years later, one of the chief secretaries. In 1711 his friend Richard Steele asked Addison to assist in writing papers for a periodical called the *Tatler*. This Addison did, and soon eclipsed the fame of Steele himself. When the *Tatler* ceased to appear, the two men continued similar work in another periodical known as the *Spectator*; and it is in the papers contributed by him to these two series that his best literary work appeared. In 1713 he produced a tragedy upon the subject of *Cato*, which was greatly admired at the time. He married the Countess of Warwick; and eventually died at Holland House, near London, in 1719.

Alexander Pope (Lesson 58) was born in 1688, and was the son of a London tradesman. His health was so delicate that he was educated

privately ; and when he was twenty-eight years old he went to live near the Thames at Twickenham, where he spent the rest of his days. Pope had written verses from his earliest years ; but his good work began with an *Essay on Criticism*, which appeared in 1709. The *Essay on Man*, the *Dunciad*, and his *Epistles and Satires* are the best of his other writings. He died in 1744.

TABLE OF LEADING EVENTS, WITH DATES

JAMES I.	1603-1625
The Main Plot and the Bye Plot	1603
The Hampton Court Conference	1604
The Gunpowder Plot	1605
James dissolves his first Parliament	1611
Cecil dies	1612
James attempts to interfere with the Judges	1616
Raleigh's Expedition to the Orinoco	1616-1618
Raleigh's death	1618
The Pilgrim Fathers sail to America	1620
Bacon degraded from the Chancellorship	1621
The Spanish match broken off	1623
Buckingham's disastrous Expedition to the Rhine	1624
 CHARLES I.	 1625-1649
Charles marries Henrietta Maria	1625
Sir Thomas Darnel refuses to pay a Forced Loan	1626
The Petition of Right	1628
Buckingham assassinated	1628
Sir John Eliot imprisoned	1629
Ship-money levied	1634
Trial of Hampden	1637
The Solemn Covenant renewed	1638
The Scots win the Battle of Newburn	1639
The Long Parliament meets	1640
Strafford executed	1641
Rebellion in Ireland	1641
The Grand Remonstrance presented	1641
Charles attempts to arrest the Five Members	1642
Charles sets up his Standard at Nottingham	1642
The Battle of Edgehill, and Charles's advance upon London	1642

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The Skirmish at Chalgrove—Hampden receives his fatal wound	1643
The Royalist defeat at Marston Moor	1644
The Battle of Naseby	1645
Charles surrenders to the Scots	1646
Charles escapes to the Isle of Wight	1647
Cromwell "purges" the House of Commons	1648
Execution of the King	1649

THE REPUBLIC 1649-1660

The Country ruled by a Council of State	1649
Rising in Ireland—Slaughter of the Garrisons at Drogheda and Wexford	1649
Cromwell defeats the Royalists at Dunbar	1650
Charles II. crowned at Scone	1651
The Battle of Worcester	1651
Naval War with the Dutch	1653
Cromwell dismisses the Rump	1653
Cromwell Lord Protector	1654
England ruled by Martial Law	1655
Death of Cromwell	1658

CHARLES II. 1660-1685

The Clarendon Code put in force	1661-1665
War with Holland	1665
The Plague	1665
The Great Fire	1666
The Dutch Fleet in the Thames	1667
The Cabal Ministry	1667
The Secret Treaty with France	1670
The Test Act passed	1673
Marriage of the Princess Mary with the Prince of Orange	1677
Habeas Corpus Act passed	1679
Impeachment of Danby	1679
Quarrels over the Exclusion Bill	1679-1681
The Rye-House Plot	1683

JAMES II. 1685-1688

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The Case of Sir Edward Hales	1686
The Camp formed at Hounslow	1686
The Conflict with the Universities	1687
The Declaration of Indulgence	1688

TABLE OF LEADING EVENTS, WITH DATES 249

The Trial of the Seven Bishops	1688
William of Orange lands at Torbay	1688
The Flight of James	1688

WILLIAM III. and MARY 1689-1694

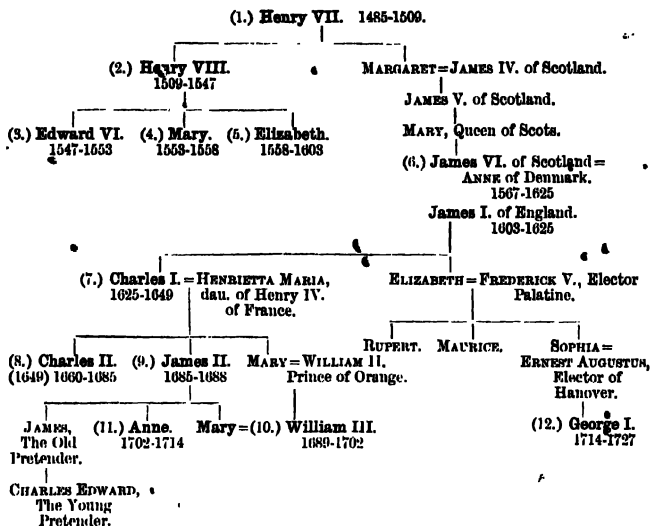
WILLIAM alone	1694-1702
The Bill of Rights	1689
The Mutiny Act	1689
The War in Ireland	1689
The Battle of Killiecrankie	1689
The Battle of the Boyne	1690
The Treaty of Limerick	1691
The Massacre of Glencoe	1692
The Battle off Cape La Hogue	1692
The Treaty of Ryswick	1697
The Darien Scheme	1698
The Act of Settlement	1701
Declaration of War against France	1701

ANNE 1702-1714

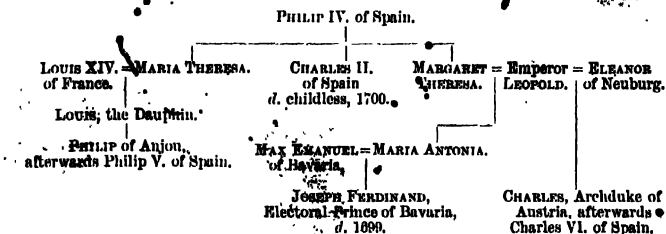
The Battle of Blenheim	1704
The Capture of Gibraltar	1704
The Battle of Ramillies	1706
The Union with Scotland	1707
The Battle of Oudenarde	1708
The Battle of Malplaquet	1709
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Marlborough dismissed	1711
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Bolingbroke attempts a Jacobite restoration	1713-14

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